American Arms Used In Chinese Civil War

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Workers Of The World, Unite!

THE MILITANT

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Four Negro Farm-Hands Lynched In Georgia

By Evelyn Atwood

In a bestial Jim-Crow massacre, two Georgia farm hands and their wives were lynched on July 25 by a gang of 25 to 30 white storm troopers. The Negro couples were waylaid and dragged from an automobile on a dark and swampy road in Walton County, not far from Atlanta. They were brutally beaten and pumped full of bullets.

The mass lynching was carefully planned and carried out in cold blood. The murderers disdained to even conceal their identity. For the signal to launch a reign of terror had already been given to organized fascist gangs by Governor-elect, Eugene Talmadge.

The four victims were Roger Malcolm, 27, and his wife Dorothy; George Dorsey and his wife, May. The two women were sisters. Dorsey was a war veteran with five years service in the Army, including overseas duty in the Pacific and North Africa. He was rewarded for his part in the "war against fascism" abroad by torture and death at the hands of fascist gangsters in Georgia.

The three relatives of Roger Malcolm drove to Monroe with Loy Harrison, a planter and landlord. The Dorseys sharecropped for Harrison on his farm. They were on their way to bail out Roger Malcolm, who had been jailed on July 14 on a charge of stabbing his white employer. Harrison claimed he was going to employ the Malcolms on his farm also.

'STRANGE" DELAY

The $600 bond was posted at 2 o'clock. According to a **PM** reporter on the spot, "for some reason, not yet explained, Malcolm was not released immediately. Harrison went to get his car fixed and the women went shopping. They came back at 5 o'clock, got Malcolm and started in Harrison's car for his farm some ten miles away."

Then they "started out of town by one road, but 'someone' told them to go another way. Harrison said he doesn't know who the 'someone' was." But they took the road they were requested to take, and were ambushed. "There was a car drawn up across the road. Harrison stopped. Another car swung in behind his . . . About 25 or 30 men piled out."

The leader of the gang was described by Harrison as a big man, well dressed in a brown double-breasted suit and broad-brimmed black hat. He was deeply suntanned and spoke commandingly "like a retired doctor or general." Most of the gang, Harrison said, "were dressed in khaki clothes, just like me."

The lynchers planned to murder only the Negro men. They jerked them out of the car and down the river bank. But one of the wives evidently recognized the leader. She cried out, pleading: "Don't kill him, Mr. . . ." Harrison said he did not catch the name.

But the gang leader barked out: "She recognized us. Get those women too! You know

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Congress Boosts Its Own Pay By 50 Per Cent

Congress last week voted itself a 50 per cent pay increase, a pension, and "extras," as a reward for a job well done. After all, hasn't it slaved hard and shouted itself hoarse, fighting against effective price control and attacking every attempt of the workers to get a wage increase?

Of course it was a tough job, so to guard against over-work in the future, Congressmen considerately provided for a staff of "experts" to be put at their disposal — patronage jobs that will go to deserving members of Congressmen's families.

FIXED FOR LIFE

All this has its dangers, needless to say. The workers may kick them out of office at the next election. But the Senators and Representatives thought of everything. They will now be eligible for the federal retirement and pension plan, under which they can rake in an income for life.

It wasn't all smooth going though. There was some haggling over the money. The original Senate proposal was for a flat increase from $10,000 to $15,000. But Representative Clarence J. Brown of Ohio objected to that. "Let's do it the honest way!" he shouted during the House discussions.

HONESTY PAYS

Brown's amendment was accepted. Instead of a $5,000 raise, it hands Congressmen a $2,500 increase, plus a $2,500 expense account which they don't have to itemize or audit.

"Many figured that the arrangement would mean more than $15,000 salary," commented the **N. Y. Times,** because "the expense account's tax-free."

Joseph Hansen Will Speak At Indonesia League Rally

NEW YORK, August 1—Joseph Hansen, Socialist Workers Party candidate for U. S. Senate in the coming elections will speak at the Indonesia Republic Anniversary Rally to be held on August 16 at Labor Temple.

Joseph Hansen

The Rally, according to John Andu, President of the Indonesia League of America which is sponsoring the meeting, will celebrate the first anniversary of the Indonesian Republic. It will also voice a public protest against the political persecutions of Indonesian residents and seamen in this country, who have been rounded up and imprisoned by the U. S. government Today almost 250 Indonesian residents and seamen are threatened with deportation and delivery into the concentration camps of their Dutch enemies in Indonesia.

Other speakers will include John Andu; Pearl Buck, noted author; Frank Crosswaith, Negro Labor Committee; Maurice Rosenblatt, American League for Free Palestine; and Norman Thomas, Socialist Party.

Fire At SWP Headquarters Set By Detroit Arson Gang

DETROIT, Mich., July 26—Two incendiarists last night set fire to the entrance to the Socialist Workers Party headquarters at 6108 Linwood Avenue, endangering the lives of over a hundred persons attending a meeting upstairs. The audience had been listening to a speech by Myra Tanner Weiss, Los Angeles organizer of the Socialist Workers Party, on "War Preparations against the Soviet Union."

Bystanders in the street saw the two men throw an inflammable liquid over the entrance and on the stairway leading to the meeting hall. These two were then seen igniting the fuel, after which they escaped up Linwood Avenue, unapprehended.

As smoke and flames shot up the stairway, those in charge of the meeting quickly led the audience to the fire escape in the rear of the hall. Everyone left the burning building safely, and there was no panic. Damage to the building was estimated at $500 after the Fire Department had put out the fire.

Arthur Burch, Detroit organizer of the Socialist Workers Party, immediately issued the following statement:

"There is no doubt that this dastardly act, endangering the lives of innocent people, is the work of vigilante, fascist gangsters. It is part of the drive of Big Business to crush the unions and political organizations of the working class.

"We Trotskyists have always been in the forefront of the struggle for workers' economic security against labor-haters and race-baiters like G. L. K. Smith, the Ku Klux Klan, the Black Legion, and vigilante groups. The Socialist Workers Party, in Detroit and throughout the country, led in organizing mass anti-fascist picket lines at G. L. K. Smith meetings.

For other developments in the arson attack on the SWP in Detroit, see Page 8

"Our speaker, Mrs. Weiss, was especially active in this respect on the West Coast, where the largest anti-Smith picket lines were organized. In addition, she has devoted the last six months to exposing vigilante terrorism against the Negro people on the West Coast.

"She is the author of the famous pamphlet, **Vigilante Terror in Fontana**, which brought to light facts in the murder of O'Day H. Short, his wife, and two children, in an incendiary fire at his home, similar to the fire set at our headquarters last night. Through the evidence which Mrs. Weiss obtained, she proved that the burning of Short's home was the work of organized vigilantes.

NEED DEFENSE GUARDS

"The fiendish attack on our headquarters, endangering the lives of so many people, shows not only to what lengths the vigilante terrorists are willing to go, but is clear proof that they are working in an organized fashion on a nationwide scale. It appears to be the work of the same anti-labor forces who are responsible for the brutal beatings of five members of the militant and progressive Briggs Local 212, UAW-CIO.

"Like the Hitler gangs in Germany, these native vigilante terrorists strike first at the most advanced sections of labor. However, this is just a preliminary to attacks against ever wider layers of the working class, unless organized labor acts immediately to stop such terrorism.

"The Socialist Workers Party asks the Detroit labor movement, especially the UAW-CIO, to make a thorough investigation of the incendiary firing of our headquarters. We further call on the unions at once to organize their flying squadrons and workers' defense guards, to protect all workers' gatherings and defend their union militants."

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NEW OPA BILL LIFTS HUNDREDS OF PRICES

The Mountain Labored And Brought Forth A Mouse

Living Costs Soar Skyward As Profiteers Reap Benefits

By Ruth Benson

The new OPA bill, signed by Truman on July 25, has already resulted in soaring prices on hundreds of food items, clothing, shoes, fuel and other necessities of life. For the future the OPA promises only more price increases through its elaborate machinery of price-changing and decontrol.

Final decisions on decontrol rest with a hand-picked three-man board which can be counted on to favor the profiteers.

Under this fraudulent "price control" bill, there is no limit on the price of milk, eggs and tobacco for an indefinite period. But that's just a starter. Sixty per cent of all foods, including meats, poultry, grains, and cottonseed and soybeans from which essential oils are derived, will be uncontrolled until August 21, when they may or may not be put back under ceilings.

'The Fight To Defend The Workers' Standard Of Living' See Page 2

On September 1, and monthly thereafter, the Department of Agriculture—notoriously friendly to the food trusts—will issue a list of foods "in short supply." Only such foods are to be kept under price-control — provided the Decontrol Board is willing.

Clothing costs, already skyrocketing, will go still higher as low-priced clothes disappear from the market. The original OPA's "maximum average price plan" which enforced production of some low-priced clothing, is dead and buried.

Substantial price increases are given on household needs, stoves, and almost all other manufactured goods. Thousands of items of hardware are totally decontrolled. Only rent control remains in practice.

"NO GUARANTEE"

The bill is so weak that Truman, while signing it, was forced to admit it "by no means guarantees that inflation can be avoided." He defended it however as a basic improvement over the bill vetoed in June.

He made much over the fact that the Taft and Wherry amendments had been eliminated. The new bill, said Truman, "guarantees profits on the basis of 1940, more nearly representative of normal peacetime operations." The Taft plan had guaranteed all industries their 1941 profits, highest in history.

Truman also cited the fact that the present bill gives distributors the markups prevailing March 31, 1946, instead of January 1, 1946, the date set in the Wherry amendment.

In actual fact, however, their differences are minor. Truman, like Taft and Wherry, wants to protect the profits of the price-gougers, not the welfare of the workers. That is why Taft was able to reply that the differences in inflationary effect between the two bills are negligible.

WAGE "STABILIZATION"

The real reason why Truman prefers the present bill to the earlier one was revealed in his message to Congress. "Finally," he told the House and Senate, "the vetoed bill contained a clause which would have destroyed wage stabilization by requiring the inclusion of unapproved wage increases as costs in the price increase formula. That clause has been omitted from the present bill."

"CHICAGO, July 27—The meat feast being enjoyed by the American public, its first real taste of meat in several years, will end as suddenly as it appeared should price restrictions . . . be reinstated in the livestock and meat industry, stockyards interests said today."

Thus Truman has signed the present measure not because it will hold down prices—he admits it won't—but because it will maintain the Wage Stabilization Board. The administration wants that Board kept as a means of holding the workers back from the wage increases they so desperately need.

Campaign To Put SWP On Ballot In New York Gets A Flying Start

By Karolyn Kerry

SWP Campaign Manager

NEW YORK, July 29. — The campaign to place the Socialist Workers Party (Trotskyist) ticket on the New York State ballot in the coming elections got off to a flying start on the opening weekend, July 27-28.

More than 3,000 signatures were obtained in Manhattan and Brooklyn on the first two days of the campaign.

Reports were also received at Campaign Headquarters in this city that many more than the required number of signatures were obtained in 10 upstate counties. Upstate counties reporting fulfillment of the quota in the first two days were Columbia, Ulster, Dutchess, Sullivan, Putnam, Monroe, Wayne, Saratoga, Lewis and Jefferson.

Topnotch morale prevailed among the petition getters as the campaign got under way on July 27. Over 75 members and friends of the SWP met at campaign headquarters on the first evening and then proceeded to selected parts of the city. After two hours more than 2,000 signatures were obtained.

Reports of the work were given that night at a social evening at the Chelsea Workers Center. Comrades brought with them three workers who had signed the petitions and had now come to sign applications for membership in the Socialist Workers Party.

On the following day comrades and friends combined work with pleasure by obtaining signatures at Brighton Beach. After a morning of swimming and relaxation, they streamed through the beaches and boardwalk obtaining hundreds of signatures.

One of the most interesting reports from upstate came from Putnam County. After a day of unfruitful work in rich farm areas and wealthy residential communities, the trailblazers arrived at Brewster. Here they filled their petitions without difficulty. Brewster came into the news a few months ago when returning GIs tossed out the Republican and Democratic politicians and elected a GI administration. The veterans were glad to help place Dobbs and Richardson on the ballot.

At the whirlwind pace thus far established, the required number of 12,000 signatures with a minimum of 50 from each of the 62 counties should be obtained in record time. The goal of 25,000 signatures set by the Campaign Committee should be obtained before Sept. 5, the last day of the campaign.

Friends and sympathizers are urged to turn out again on Saturday, August 3, 7 p.m., at Campaign Headquarters, 116 University Pl in Manhattan and 635 Fulton St. in Brooklyn, where they will be assigned to areas for collection of signatures.

Mid-West Camp Extended For Two More Weeks

The Mid-West Vacation Camp and School has been extended for two more weeks. It will continue the last two weeks of August through Labor Day, September 2.

The enthusiastic influx of vacation-bound comrades and readers of **The Militant** has necessitated this change, said Oscar Coover, Camp Director. The Mid-West camp is located in a lovely wooded knoll on Little Pleasant Lake, 60 miles from Detroit, Michigan.

This attractive vacation resort is justly popular with those workers and their families who have already attended it. Through their glowing reports to friends, new reservations are pouring in. The camp provides a real opportunity to build up health and to have fun in delightful outdoor surroundings. There is boating, swimming, games and sports. There is the hilarious, amateur Mid-West Follies on Saturday nights.

Best of all, between the hours of play, there are the inspiring classes led by William F. Warde, for those who wish to learn about the problems and theories of the labor movement.

Readers of **The Militant** are urged to send their reservations, preferably for the weeks beginning August 11, 18 and 25. These are the last three weeks of the camp.

IN THE NEWS

Atom Bomb Helps

The Associated Press reported, July 23, that Dr. Daniel A. Poling, president of the World Christian Endeavor Union, "deplores" the desire to withdraw American troops from Germany. "The best understood language is the language of strength," he said, explaining he meant "physical, moral and spiritual strength."

• • •

Jobs For All— Except Millions

"Any veteran who wants it can get a job today . . . in this full employment economy." — Senator Ball, denouncing the proposed terminal leave bill in the Senate, July 23.

"At last report, two million veterans were unemployed."—**St. Louis Post-Dispatch,** quoted in July 19 **Racine Labor.**

• • •

Cooperation — But

"The rebirth of the OPA found business and industry spokesmen eager yesterday to cooperate but unanimous in their belief that the new price legislation would fail unless price increases were allowed." — **N. Y. Times,** July 26.

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Does Anyone Need Three Guesses

Representative Coffee (D., Wash.) is still trying to explain the $2,500 check and letter of thanks for favors rendered, which were sent him by a Tacoma contractor. Coffee calls the money a campaign contribution, and adds: "Anderson's letter used the term 'slip' instead of check, the reason which I do not know."

• • •

Like Bombing Java?

"The outstanding feature of membership of the United Nations is service—not a selfish defense of mere national interest, but service to the whole community of nations," said King **George of England.**

TWO BANKERS, ONE BOSS STAFF DECONTROL BOARD

"I propose to appoint as members of the (decontrol) board men in whose judgment and fairness the Congress and the country will have complete confidence." That was what President Truman said on July 25 as he signed the new OPA bill.

But how could both the people and Congress have confidence in the same Board, when the people want price rises stopped and Congress wants price rises to continue?

President Truman settled this question when he picked the three-man Decontrol Board two day later—and he settled it in favor of the price gougers.

Not a single representative of the labor movement or consumers organizations is on this board, which will have final say over price ceilings. All of them are representatives of the banking and business interests, whose main concern is profit and not the needs of the consumers. The members of the board are:

Roy L. Thompson, president of the Federal Land Bank of New Orleans, who will be chairman.

Daniel B. Well, a banker of Washington, D. C., and former Undersecretary of the Treasury.

George H. Mead, of Dayton, Ohio, chairman of the board of the Mead Corporation, a pulp and paper company.

For their activities in decontrolling prices, that is to say, in raising prices, these men will be paid $12,000 a year.

The selection of these people will satisfy Congress, but it will not satisfy the workers or consumers.

What they need is not a Decontrol Board, but committees representing labor, consumers, farmers and small businessmen that will prevent corporation profiteering and will fix and control prices in the interests of the consumers.

The Fight To Defend The Workers' Standard Of Living

By The Secretariat Of The Socialist Workers Party

The monopolists have launched an all-out offensive to bring down the workers' standard of living through skyrocketing prices. Their pliant tools in Washington have accommodated them with an OPA which in reality gives government sanction to the upward spiralling of prices. The workers' purchasing power is declining rapidly while the war fattened monopolists continue to pick up billions in profits.

The terrific impact of the brazen price-gouging attack by Big Business is arousing ever broader layers of the workers and consumers generally to the realization that they must fight back through their own organizations and with their own program. Protest demonstrations have been held. Wage increases have been demanded. Buyers' strikes are spreading. Consumers' committees are forming. However, these struggles are as yet localized and uncoordinated both in program and in organization.

It is the task of our party and every class-conscious worker to introduce into this movement clear objectives and correct methods for an effective struggle. Toward this end we recommend the following:

1. The Sliding Scale Of Wages

Our central transitional slogan for the unions in this period of inflation has been and remains the sliding scale of wages to meet the rising cost of living. This slogan has already taken hold in some sections of the trade union movement.

The powerful Goodrich Local 5 of the CIO United Rubber Workers in Akron has raised a demand through its newspaper for the sliding scale of wages. In Detroit, the General Council of Ford Local 600 and the Briggs and Budd locals of the CIO United Auto Workers have likewise raised this demand. Similar action has been taken by the Executive Board of UAW Local 659 in Flint and the AFL Cannery Workers and Fishermen's Union in San Diego. Numerous other unions are bringing forward a demand for the sliding scale of wages. The CIO Packinghouse Workers Union has raised a modified version of this demand by calling for a cost-of-living bonus to meet the rising cost of living.

These concrete examples of the application of the demand for a sliding scale of wages should be freely applied in introducing the slogan within each local union and in the general agitation for the demand. Those unions which have already adopted this demand should be urged to bring pressure for its adoption by the rest of the trade union movement. For example, local unions should bring pressure on their parent bodies by means of resolutions, telegrams, letters, delegations, etc., as circumstances permit. Similar action should be taken to spread the demand within the central labor bodies in each locality and the various union conventions. Publicity should be sought both in the labor press and the capitalist press. This can be done through formal union statements, through articles by individuals and letters to the editor from unions and individuals. When the time is propitious, organizational expression should be given to the campaign for this demand by forming interlocal caucuses of the unions favoring the demand.

The pressure of the workers has already compelled Murray, Reuther and some other top union officials to raise the issue of wage increases to offset rising prices. Every possible advantage of this opening must be taken to demonstrate that in the face of inflation limited wage demands on a fixed basis are utterly inadequate. There is only one effective wage demand in this period—the sliding scale of wages, an escalator wage clause in all union contracts to provide automatic wage increases to meet the rising cost of living.

2. The Sliding Scale For Veterans

Inflationary prices play havoc with the standard of living of all groups in the population who are compelled to live on a strictly limited income. Especially does this apply to veterans who are receiving unemployment compensation, attending school under the GI Bill of Rights, or drawing disability pensions. In addition to the demand for trade union wages for veterans in the above categories, the workers must raise immediately a demand for a sliding scale of compensation to meet the rising cost of living. The trade unions and veterans' organizations should raise an immediate demand for legislation to provide such a sliding scale based retroactively on the price index at the time the GI Bill of Rights was passed.

This demand could be applied also to cover unemployment compensation for all workers and to cover old age pensions, widows' pensions, etc., both state and federal.

3. Committees On Prices

Committees for struggle against high prices, originally sponsored by the Stalinists and some sections of the trade union bureaucracy, have recently been formed in many localities. The Stalinists and the trade union bureaucrats have sought to use these committees as a substitute for a renewed fight for higher wages. Price committees operating with a correct program are effective as a means of struggle parallel to the fight for higher wages, but they cannot be a substitute for the fight on the wage front.

The activities of these committees have included protest demonstrations, buyers' strikes, picketing of merchants, demands for government price control, etc. These committees have so far been loosely organized and more or less local in character. Nonetheless, they have already had the effect of drawing large numbers of people into direct struggle against price increases.

The program imposed by the Stalinists and the trade union bureaucrats is false and can lead only to disillusionment and frustration among the masses. Buyers' strikes are extremely limited in their effectiveness because the worker is in any case able to buy little more than the bare necessities of life and these he must have. The callous withholding of meat from the market for many weeks by the big packers in their fight against price control already demonstrated to what lengths monopoly capitalism will go in starving the people to protect profits. Picketing of small merchants can have real effect only if it is used as one step toward the exposure of the real robbers, the big trusts.

It is the task of every class-conscious worker to participate in committees on prices, to initiate them where none exist and to imbue them with a correct program and with militancy in action. Through these committees an alliance can be forged among the industrial workers, white collar workers, veterans, professional people, and even the farmers and small merchants in their capacity as consumers. The object of this alliance must be to demand its own control over the fixing of prices, since the government has already demonstrated that its price-fixing measures are a fraud.

The following are some of the steps the committees on prices could take in their struggle against high prices: They should demand the cooperation of the retail merchants in the fixing of prices. Those merchants agreeing to cooperate could be supplied special display cards to indicate their pledge of cooperation. Regular checkups on prices should be made to see that the pledge is kept. Merchants refusing to cooperate should be picketed. Experience has shown that independent merchants usually cooperate, while chain stores most often refer the committees to the "home office." Thus the role of the trusts quickly reveals itself in this limited form.

Even if the retail merchant is willing to cooperate, he is limited by the price he must pay to the wholesaler. The committee must therefore demand that the retailer open his books and reveal the price lists of the wholesalers with whom he does business. This step brings the committee face to face with the wholesaler from whom they must likewise demand a pledge of cooperation to control prices.

The wholesaler in turn is limited in his ability to cooperate by the prices he must pay the manufacturer or processor. Therefore, the committee must demand that the wholesaler open his books and reveal the price lists of the manufacturers and processors with whom he does business.

By this process the committees ascertain the financial operations and profit margin of each capitalist in the chain beginning at the point of distribution and extending to the point of production. Finally they will reach the big monopolists and demand of them that they open their books. By this means the workers will be able to prove that the real reason for high prices is the exorbitant profits of the capitalists.

In the books of the monopolists will be found the evidence to prove who are the real big-time profiteers. In these books will be found proof of withholding goods from the market and deliberate destruction of goods to create artificial scarcities; collusion to corner markets; adulteration of products; super profits; fantastic executive salaries and bonuses; stock swindles; huge expenditures for anti-labor propaganda; payrolls for industrial spies; huge sums spent for advertising as a means of controlling the press and radio; lavish expenditures for lobbying in state and federal legislatures; huge contributions to the capitalist political parties; mammoth tax steals; funds used to corrupt officials; and numerous other devices for controlling the government, the press, and the radio in order only more ruthlessly to plunder the general population.

The struggle for control over the fixing of prices has meaning only if linked to the demand for the opening of the books. This demand, which will be fiercely resisted by the profiteers, will thus become the point of departure for the whole unfolding struggle. This struggle will assume the most variegated forms, such as picketing, demonstrations, boycotts, publicity exposes, demands upon the politicians to support the committee in its struggle, proposals to clean house on the non-cooperating politicians, etc. We can best develop the present unfolding struggles along these lines.

As recent experiences have already demonstrated, these struggles have been essentially local in character. As the local struggles assume a sharper and more politically defined character, we will have an opportunity to broaden the movement on a regional scale. And at a further stage, as the struggle between the workers and the profiteers becomes intensified in character, the question will necessarily be posed of uniting the local and regional organizations into a national body of struggle.

4. A United Conference Of Labor

Only the labor movement can rally the broad mass of consumers to carry on this fight. This pressing task, along with the other key problems of the workers, emphasizes again the urgent need for a broad United Conference of Labor embracing the CIO, AFL, Railroad Brotherhoods and other unions. Such a conference could coordinate and broaden the struggle to defend the workers' standard of living. Such a conference could launch a united struggle for a sliding scale of wages to meet the rising cost of living. Such a conference would coordinate the fight of the committees on prices to control the fixing of prices. Furthermore, a broad United Conference of Labor would give an impetus to the building of an independent labor party.

Congress Votes Down Cancer Research Bill

A bill to provide $100,000,000 for a cancer control program was voted down on July 27 by the House of Representatives. The measure would have authorized Truman to name an independent group to coordinate a broad project to discover methods to cure and prevent cancer. Outstanding scientists of the world were to be invited to assist.

A quarter-page advertisement in the N. Y. Times by Quentin Reynolds on the same day the bill was voted down, appealed in vain for its passage. The ad stated: "NO ONE IS SAFE FROM CANCER. Its toll is appalling. From Pearl Harbor to VJ-Day, cancer killed more than twice as many Americans as were killed or listed as missing . . ."

The ad further noted: "There are 17,000,000 Americans doomed to die of cancer unless we do something about it. During 1946 approximately 90,000 women, 83,000 men and 2,000 children will be its victims. That is 478 every day—20 every hour—one every three minutes! . . . Every year cancer causes our nation an economic los of at least $900,000,000," according to cold analytical surveys made by insurance companies and statisticians.

This is the same Congress that shoved through an appropriation of almost 12 BILLION dollars in preparation for a new world war. (The same Big Brass which gets this appropriation is itself blocking the progress of cancer research. It is withholding "Carbon 13" discovered since the release of atomic energy, and the most hopeful avenue yet developed for the cure of cancer.)

Twelve billion dollars for slaughter — but they balk at spending less than ONE PER CENT of that amount to save 17,000,000 lives. That is the Congress whose members are asking for re-election this year.

Akron CIO Council Opposes Any New "No-Strike" Pledge

(Special to The Militant)

AKRON, Ohio, July 25 — The CIO Council of Akron vigorously denounced any attempt by top leaders of the CIO to impose another no-strike pledge on labor, in a motion adopted at a meeting Monday night.

Replying to a report in the press that Philip Murray was considering a no-strike pledge for a cost-of-living stabilization promise by the government, the motion stated, "We are unalterably opposed to a no-strike pledge in any shape, form or manner since it would only serve to hogtie labor and render it powerless against the anti-labor drive of Big Business."

I. H. Watson, President of Firestone Local No. 7 of the United Rubber Workers, led the fight stating, "Under the misguided title of patriotism, labor was shackled during the war. No one has the right to bind the millions of workers to such a pledge without the permission of the members themselves. Let us serve notice here and now that we will fight any such attempt to the very last ditch. We will not allow any leader, no matter who he may be, to bind us and shackle us."

Stalinist delegate Amos Murphy, with characteristic servility, said, "After all, this is only a rumor. Let us not forget that Philip Murray is our leader. We should adopt a more carefully worded motion and not be led into taking any premature action."

Replying to Murphy, Jules Geller, delegate from Goodrich Local No. 5 of the Rubber Workers, stated, "Some people are so used to taking orders from above that they have lost the art of standing on their two feet like men. Brother Murphy says this is only a rumor. I say that if there is the slightest shadow of a doubt that somewhere in the dark corner of Philip Murray's mind there is a slight hint that he may be considering or even musing about another no-strike pledge, we should stand up and tell him in no uncertain terms that he had better forget all about it.

"There is no reason for us to get down on our hands and knees and scrape the dust before Philip Murray. We are not proposing here to pass a motion to oust Philip Murray. That will come later, if and when he tries again to force a no-strike pledge down our throats."

When the motion was put, the vote was unanimously in favor.

1,000 Buffalo Workers Protest Rapidly Mounting Cost Of Living

BUFFALO, N. Y. July 25—About 1,000 workers, veterans and members of consumers groups demonstrated in Niagara Square this afternoon in protest against the rapidly mounting prices that are fast undermining consumer purchasing power.

Prominent in the demonstration was a large delegation from Bell Local 501, UAW-CIO. Following the militant action of UAW locals in Detroit and other cities last week, the Bell workers shut down the Bell Aircraft Plant in Niagara Falls early in the afternoon.

In an organized motor caravan of cars and busses, with banners flying, the Bell workers traveled the 25 miles to Buffalo to a pre-arranged spot where they parked their cars. Five abreast and headed by their president, Frank Vohs, they marched through the main streets carrying a large number of placards, shouting slogans and singing union songs and then proceeded to City Hall where the demonstration was to take place.

DEMAND WAGE RISE

Their placards read: "Higher Wages to Meet Higher Prices," "Consumers Committees to Combat Price Rises," "Vets Can't Live on $20 a Week," "Living Standards Smashed by Congress—Build a Labor Party," "Wage, Salary Increases to Meet Price Rises," etc.

The main speaker was Roy Reuther, international representative of the UAW, who substituted for President Walter Reuther. He exposed the claim of the National Association of Manufacturers that free competition would lower prices and pointed out that Big Business has monopoly control of industry, and free competition is a thing of the past in this country.

He also stressed the point that at the time of the GM strike, the fact-finding board had stated that the General Motors Corporation could well afford to pay the 18½-cent increase in wages without raising prices and that this was true for industry as a whole.

While Reuther called for wage increases to maintain the buying power of the workers, the main burden of his remarks dealt with the buyers' strike and new price legislation. The rest of the speakers, including two ministers and the representatives of a veterans' group, expressed the hope that "real" price control legislation would be adopted by Congress and the administration and pinned their faith in a buyers' strike to lower prices.

CHEER LABOR PARTY

The chairman, Mrs. Isabel Bayley, a housewife, had occasion during her remarks to refer to the coming elections in November. Someone in the crowd shouted "Independent Labor Party," and the immediate response was a loud cheer.

Trade unionists, veterans' organizations and consumers' groups in Buffalo, protesting against skyrocketing prices and demanding higher wages, to keep pace with the mounting cost of living. —(Courtesy Buffalo Evening News)

Mayor Dowd, Republican head of the city administration, was roundly booed for his refusal to grant a permit to hold the demonstration in a more central location. He also refused a permit to use a public address system although loudspeakers have been used on several occasions in the city.

In addition to the many Bell workers present, members of other CIO unions including the Mine, Mill and Smelter Workers, the United Steelworkers and several others made up the bulk of those present.

SWP PLACARDS

The Socialist Workers Party was well represented with placards calling for a "Rising Scale of Wages to Meet Rising Prices," "Consumers Committees to Fight Price Rises" and leaflets on "How to Fight High Prices."

The rally was called under the auspices of the Emergency Citizens Committee for Effective Price Control. This committee—made up of a few liberals, the Communist Party and several Stalinist and Socialist trade union officials—successfully prevented the demand for wage increases from becoming part of the official call for the demonstration.

The participation of the unions in planning and preparing the protest was kept at a minimum by the committee, which revealed little ability or desire to organize an effective meeting. Had the unions been given an opportunity to take their rightful place in this activity and had a militant program been adopted, there is no doubt that Buffalo would have seen a mighty display of workers' protest against high prices that would have made labor history in this city.

What Do You Say?

Question: "Are you in favor of having all sections of the union movement — CIO, AFL and Railroad Brotherhoods—get together to set up a labor party and run labor candidates for office?"

Place: Akron, Ohio, at meeting of CIO Council.

• • •

George Bass, President of Goodrich Local 5, United Rubber Workers:

A Labor Party should be formed in America by organized labor and other groups who can get together. I think it is high time that we formed such a party and sent people to government posts who represent the interests of the working class.

• • •

I. H. Watson, President of Firestone Local 7, United Rubber Workers:

I believe that we've got to have a Labor Party; there is no question about that. We cannot depend upon the Democratic and Republican parties. However, this is a big job. It must be done on a national scale, it must be built very carefully and from the ground up. I don't believe the time is ripe just yet. If we are going to do this, we must do it right. We must take our time and build it carefully and securely.

• • •

Roy Scoggins, Executive Board member, Retail, Wholesale and Department Store Union:

The CIO, AFL and the Brotherhood of Railroad Trainmen should join in united political action. They should attract the best elements from the Democratic and Republican parties to go along with them. They should work together in the political field as the CIO now does with the PAC. That should be preliminary to forming a labor party.

• • •

Stanley Maxwell, delegate from Goodrich Local 5, United Rubber Workers:

I think it's a wonderful idea and just what we need.

• • •

Jules Geller, Associate Editor **Air Bag,** delegate from Goodrich Local No 5:

I am for a labor party at the earliest possible moment. It is becoming more obvious to every worker that the old Democratic and Republican parties are the corrupt tools of capitalism against labor. The current anti-labor orgy in Congress is speeding up the labor party movement.

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New Purges In The Soviet Union Reflect Discontent With Kremlin

By Larissa Reed

The smoldering discontent of the Soviet masses against their abysmal living standards and working conditions, is reflected in the scope and intensity of the new "peace-time" purges in the USSR. After heroic efforts through five years of war and war preparations, all that Stalin's ruling clique can offer the weary peoples are promises and scapegoats.

Prior to Moscow's public admission of the purges, issues of the Soviet press for May and June were filled with false optimism. The May 30 **Pravda** promised for the thousandth time: "The time is not far distant when rationing will be abolished in our country." Among the reports seeping through it is learned that workers in some places have not been paid wages for as long as a year. Meat shortage is growing more acute.

Pravda of June 15 cites several cases of "embezzlement of cattle" and of live-stock dying out for lack of fodder on the ranges of Buryat—Mongolia. "Where is the guarantee that similar conditions do not prevail in other regions?" **Pravda** queries.

As the scarcities and hardships continue, the number of scapegoats mounts. The purges have invaded every sphere of Soviet life, from shake-ups in the military and industrial departments, to condemnation of Soviet culture and the rude manners of the people.

NEW PUPPETS

A wide-scale purge is in progress among army hierarchy. Soviet war hero Zhukov was demoted from command of all Red Army ground forces to a provincial army post at Odessa. It is not known at present what has become of Marshal A. A. Novikov, who headed the Russian Air Force during the war and who has now been "removed." With the elimination of the most prominent war figures, new Stalinist puppets are being raised up.

Furthermore, a campaign of "political education" has been launched in the army, according to a July 18 Moscow dispatch, to eliminate "backsliding" and ideological weaknesses. The Army newspaper is sharply criticized for its "weak and timid" policy in glorifying the Stalinist regime.

Major General V. Lebedev, writing in the **Red Fleet**, the Soviet Navy's official newspaper, warns that the links between party organization and non-party personnel must be "strengthened," and that this will be a "big task." He criticizes party propaganda in the Army and Navy.

WIDE PURGES

Simultaneously, the purges against Soviet "embezzlers," "falsifiers of industrial production," against graft and corruption in government bureaus is stepped up in the name of "iron discipline." Official disclosures from the Ministry of State Control indicate that these purges include coal, metallurgy, automobiles, airplane construction, electrical equipment, food, agricultural machinery, railways and housing. They involve directors and top officials of important trusts and at several Ministries. Recently more than 20 factory, mill and mine executives were "punished" for misusing funds.

The Kremlin is already demanding harsher punishments. According to a July 25 Moscow dispatch, the Soviet Supreme Court had quashed a prison sentence imposed upon three defendants in the Moscow Circuit Railroad by the Military Tribunal. That the purge will probably close around the Military Tribunal itself was implicit in the veiled threat that "some courts underestimate the social danger of bribery and corruption."

The purge is sweeping through the editorial staffs of Soviet local newspapers. According to Neal Stanford, writing from Washington on July 18, the Kremlin recently directed a "critique" to 5,600 local editors, mentioning a number of them by name. They were warned to correct the "weaknesses" of Soviet newspapers, that is, taken to task for not swinging behind the purge and not sufficiently praising Stalin, his regime, his new Five-Year Plan—and his newest wave of terror.

EXTEND TO ARTS

The purges extend into Soviet opera, music, the theater, painting, films, architecture, in brief, all of Soviet culture. **Culture and Life**, official Stalinist Agitation-Propaganda organ, lashes out against "incompetent" playwrights, composers, all categories of movie workers, including scenario writers, stars, cameramen, writers of literature and literary critics.

This blanket indictment coincides with the suppression of Sergei Eisenstein's film, "Ivan the Terrible," whose barbaric methods and blood purges so closely resemble Stalin's.

The Ministry of Cinema and Committees of Art and Architecture have been officially instructed to take charge of the purge, especially in connection with the periodical **Soviet Art**.

The dispatches percolating through the Moscow censors abroad do not deny the vast scope of this newest purge. They do stress, however, that the current shake-up is not so widespread as the 1937 blood-bath when Lenin's co-workers were murdered, and millions purged and imprisoned. This is perhaps true. But the significant thing is that even the monstrous purges of the Moscow frame-up period did not begin on the scale of this latest purge, the end of which is not yet in sight. Its fury is in fact mounting. For despite Stalin's boasts that the Kremlin regime had been strengthened by the war, in reality it is today more unstable and shaky than ever before.

RWP Enters Elections In Australia

For the first time in its history the Revolutionary Workers Party, Australian section of the Fourth International, has entered the election arena. Jack Kavanagh, chairman of the RWP Central Committee and an active fighter for labor since 1908, is a candidate for Parliament from West Sydney, **The Militant**, organ of the RWP, reports.

"The hopelessness of Labor reformism reveals itself completely against the blaze of the coming world crisis," says **The Militant**, warning the workers that they must turn to the socialist

JACK KAVANAGH

solution of their problems. "Only one policy, one program, one party offers any alternative to another holocaust and the obliteration of mankind . . . We offer you a program based not on war and exploitation, based not on starvation and slavery, but based on the historic slogans of Liberty, Security and Peace."

LEADER OF WORKERS

A brief biography of Jack Kavanagh in **The Militant**, reports that he entered the socialist movement in Canada in 1908, became President of the Vancouver Building Trades Council in 1912-13, actively opposed the First World War, and was one of the foundation members of the Canadian Communist Party. He went to Australia in 1925, becoming organizer of the Sydney Trades and Labor Council in 1928-29. In 1934 he was expelled from the CP for "refusing to agree that Leon Trotsky was a counter-revolutionary," and joined the Fourth International shortly after the outbreak of the Second World War.

Greek Monarchists Shoot Down Leftists

(Special To The Militant)

ATHENS, Greece, July 19 — Under the benevolent eye of the Tsaldaris government and its supporters in the British Labor Government, fascist bands are roaming Greece under arms and destroying towns and villages for their leftist sympathies.

In the past week alone, such attacks have been visited on Caria Elassoona, Skotino, Calypefki, Grevena, Kozani, Florani, Komitini, Verria and Ardea. In each place peasants were kidnapped, and in some, mutilated corpses were left to mark the reign of terror. In the meantime, leaders of the Stalinist party, KKE, were reported engaged in "reconciliation" negotiations with the government.

200 Stalinists Beat Trotskyist At Nice, France

(Special To The Militant)

NICE, France—Albert Demaziere, member of the Central Committee of the Internationalist Communist Party (CPI), French section of the Fourth International, was horribly manhandled and scarred by Stalinist gangsters at a PCI meeting here on July 12.

Two hundred Stalinist hoodlums invaded the hall where the meeting was held and refused to permit the Trotskyist speakers to proceed. When Comrade Demaziere took the rostrum to protest, a band of hoodlums swept down upon him and broke up the meeting. The police, always very solicitous in their protection of reactionary meetings, were conspicuous by their absence.

The PCI is engaged in organizing a broad worker's front for the defense of the right to free speech against the Stalinists.

International Notes

Bolivia

Bolivian workers and students have overthrown the three year old dictatorial regime of Major Gualberto Villarroel. On July 21 the victorious rebels swept through the city and threw Villarroel to his death from a balcony of the Presidential Palace in La Paz.

A provisional government, formed during the night of July 21, consisted of: Nestor Guillen, dean of the Supreme Court for the La Paz District; Luis Gonsalvez Indaburo, students' representative; Dr. Aniceto Solares, teachers' representative, and Aurelio Alcoba, workers' representative.

In its first communique issued at midday of July 22, the provisional government declared that the triumph of the rebels meant the end of dictatorship and the restoration of democracy and civil liberties to the people. All political exiles were invited to return to the country.

Students from the University of La Paz were considered the real heroes of the fighting. Their revolt actually began on July 9 when they joined their teachers in protest strikes. They fought several pitched battles with Villarroel's troops, and on July 16 were joined at the barricades by the Workers' Federation. An estimated 2,000 students and workers were killed.

The new regime's power was consolidated on July 24 when the Bolivian tin miners voted it full confidence and support.

* * *

Italy

As demonstrations against the soaring cost of living flared throughout Italy, Premier Alcide de Gasperi faced his first parliamentary crisis on July 25 by launching a flood of abuse against the working class. Premier de Gasperi, who heads the Catholic Christian Democrats, charged that the hunger demonstrations were "dangerously similar" to those that served as a pretext for the rise of fascism, and that the action of striking labor unions at Mantua in blockading highways and requiring passes from union headquarters to enter and leave the city, was "no better than that of Fascist action squads."

A stream of hysterical red-baiting then fell from de Gasperi's lips as he denounced the Italian Communist Party as a tool of Moscow and on that basis excused his efforts to reach a bloc with the western imperialists. He announced he would continue to war upon the Communists as long as the Catholic Church was being "persecuted" in areas influenced or occupied by the Soviet Union.

The Constituent Assembly was in an uproar throughout de Gasperi's anti-working class tirade. But his 11-day old government received the solid votes of the Stalinist deputies.

Palestine

The latest British stratagem in its struggle to maintain its dominance over Palestine is a plan for the partition of the country into separate Arab and Jewish provinces. In announcing this plan on July 26, the British claimed that Palestine would be divided along ethnic lines.

Under the plan 45 per cent of the country would become a British reservation, 40 per cent would go to the Arabs and only 15 per cent would be given to the Jews. But even the lands given to the Arabs and Jews would be under control of a Federal Government dominated by the British imperialists.

Chiang Uses American Arms In War On People Of China

By Li Fu-Jen

(Special To The Militant)

Well-supplied with American weapons and munitions, ranging all the way from coastal and river warships and planes, to rifle and machine-gun ammunition, Chiang Kai-shek's military forces have launched large-scale offensives on several fronts in China with intent to deal death blows to the Stalinist-led Eighth Route and New Fourth armies. The military campaign is being accompanied by an unbridled reign of terror in the cities, directed against any and all opponents of Chiang's bloody rule.

It is necessary to understand that the new military drive and the reign of terror are aimed not merely at the Stalinists. They are directed toward the wiping out of the spearhead of the popular opposition to the Kuomintang dictatorship which the Stalinists represent in the present stage of Chinese political development. Every oppositional element is in danger. What is occurring is an attempt to strangle the beginnings of the new Chinese revolution.

OPPOSITION SEETHES

Opposition to Chiang's rule is seething throughout the length and breadth of China. Never in the 19 years of the Kuomintang dictatorship has hangman Chiang's regime been so weak, so isolated, so universally hated by the masses as it is today.

One thing and one thing only stands between Chiang and the revolutionary wrath of the Chinese people: American imperialism which maintains its armed forces in China to hold open Chiang's lines of military supply and communication, and which furnishes Chiang with the implements of war.

On two fronts in North China, the peasant soldiers of the Eighth Route Army are being pressed back by Chiang's troops in the provinces of Shantung and Shansi. In the region of the lower Yangtze, in east-central China, fighting is raging in the Kiangsu-Anhwei triangle where Chiang's forces are trying to envelop the battling peasant forces of the New Fourth Army.

U. S. BOMBS

Hour after hour, according to press dispatches, planes are taking off from Nanking, Chiang Kai-shek's capital, on bombing and strafing missions against the Stalinist lines. Chinese peasant soldiers are being blasted by bombs and bullets made in America and dropped from planes also made in America.

The intervention of U. S. imperialism in the civil war in China is undertaken solely with the aim of saving Chiang Kai-shek's vile regime from revolutionary destruction by the Chinese masses, so that China may be made safe for colonial exploitation by the money hogs of Wall Street and converted into a base for future war against the Soviet Union.

CHIANG KAI-SHEK

The presence of American armed forces in China, and the continuing flow of American munitions and supplies to Chiang Kai-shek, has aroused bitter opposition among the Chinese people. Tremendous demonstrations in Shanghai have demanded an end to American intervention.

Mme. Sun Yat-sen, widow of the founder of the Chinese republic and a liberal opponent of Chiang's regime, has added her voice to the growing demand that American intervention in the Chinese civil war should cease.

In a statement issued July 22 in Shanghai and addressed to the American people, Mme. Sun declared: "The United States apparently intends to issue her aid and assistance to the Chinese through the Nationalist Government, which is permeated with the forces of reaction. Under such circumstances we can hardly welcome this aid and assistance for we know it will be used to enlarge the civil war.

"Your lend-lease loans, surplus property, marines and military mission will lead China into a protracted state of civil war, for the Chinese people will fight relentlessly for a termination of fascism in their country. We therefore ask you to prohibit your government from destroying our chances for peace and democracy and for maintaining useful diplomatic, economic and cultural relations with you."

Diplomatic representatives of reactionary governments are notorious as liars, but one could scarcely imagine a more fantastically false statement than that made in Washington July 24 by Dr. V. K. Wellington Koo, Chiang's new ambassador to the United States, in reply to Mme. Sun Yat-sen.

PROFESSIONAL LIAR

Questioning her right to speak for the Chinese people (as if HE possessed such a right!), Koo said he "could not understand" why demands were voiced for the withdrawal of American troops from China, because "the great bulk of the Chinese people know that the Americans are there for the specific purpose of disarming and repatriating Japanese soldiers." (N. Y. Times, July 25). This professional liar added that "the Chinese are grateful for the American assistance."

Meanwhile, supplementing the military drive against the Eighth Route and New Fourth armies, Chiang Kai-shek has loosed a reign of terror in the cities, reminiscent of the "purge" which he carried out in 1927 after the crushing of the Chinese revolution.

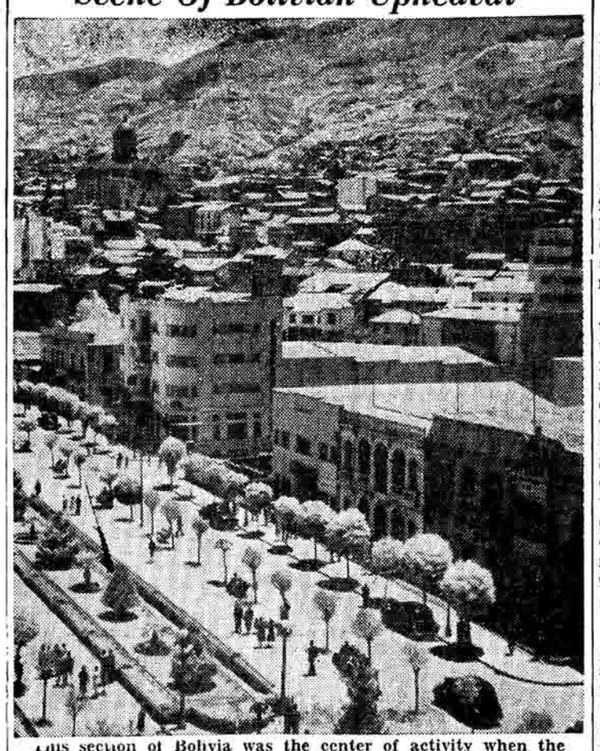
Five hundred government police, armed with tommy guns and machine-guns (made in the United States!) surrounded the campus and dormitories of Futan University in Shanghai at dawn on July 22 and after a thorough search carried off two students suspected of anti-Kuomintang activity. The Chinese press was not permitted to report the raid, but news of it was cabled abroad by the United Press.

BOOKS SEIZED

Additional hundreds of Chiang's uniformed thugs carried out raids on bookstores and magazine stands, the news agency reported, stripping them of "dangerous" reading matter. At one Shanghai bookstore all books that bore such words as "democracy," "people" and "emancipation" were seized and carried away.

At Kunming, the capital of Yunnan province in the southwest, two professors prominent in the Democratic League (a federation of petty - bourgeois groups which oppose the Kuomintang dictatorship) were murdered in cold blood by Chiang's secret police gunmen. Representatives of the same organization who went to Nanking from Shanghai to protest against the spreading civil war, were set upon by Chiang's gangsters and severely beaten.

Scene Of Bolivian Upheaval



This section of Bolivia was the center of activity when the government of Dictator Gualberto Villarroel was overthrown and a new provisional president put in office. See "International Notes" on this page.

—Federated Pictures

Strikes Spread Across India In Reply To High Living Costs

By Duncan Ferguson

In a powerful demonstration of fighting strength, Indian workers crippled the huge city of Bombay by strike actions last week. The strikes quickly spread across the vast subcontinent of India to Calcutta, where telegraph operators and postal employes walked out. Communication services were at a standstill in both cities.

On July 23 the **N. Y. Times** reported that "India now apparently faces its worst labor crisis since the railway strike of 1928." A UP report on the same day stated: "It was feared that a general strike, covering Bombay province and affecting about 500,000 workers would be called within a few hours." No news of importance has been allowed to seep out since then.

The strike movement began on July 10 when 40,000 postal employes in six of the eleven provinces of British India went out on strike to back up their wage demands. Among the most poorly paid of India's exploited workers, a postman receives as little as 18 rupees ($5.50) a month!

REFUSE TO GO BACK

When the leaders of the Federation of Post and Telegraph Unions tried to get the men to return to work without satisfaction of their demands, the workers refused to go back, and seven of the thirteen postal unions affiliated with the Federation left it.

Telegraph employes in Bombay then walked out in sympathy and were joined by 70,000 other workers in various industries in the city. In Calcutta 14,000 postal and telegraph workers walked out, shutting down all mail deliveries and telegraph service. Railroad shop workers threatened to go out in sympathy.

These strikes are but the latest development in a great movement of strike struggle that has swept all the major cities of India since the end of the war. The war brought the Indian workers nothing but unemployment, inflationary prices and a continuation of their misery—with the horrible specter of another famine looming ever closer.

INDEPENDENT ROLE

A significant aspect of the latest strikes is that the Congress Party has played no role in them—except to urge arbitration. The Congress Party, which represents the interests of the Indian capitalists, has been engaged in negotions with the British Cabinet Mission. The purpose of these negotiations is, under the cloak of "independence," to make a new division of the profits and spoils between the Indian and British capitalists, with a larger share now going to the former.

The current strike struggles show that the Indian working class is beginning to play a more and more independent role. This will soon become manifest on the political as well as the economic plane.

STALINISTS IN INDIA LINKED WITH BRITISH POLICE SERVICE

CALCUTTA, India — The Indian Communist (Stalinist) Party was linked to the CID (Criminal Investigation Department of the British Police in India) and did stoolpigeon work for it in putting down the movement for national independence during the war.

This was one of the important facts that came to light after the recent break of the Stalinist leader, Batliwala, with the Indian CP. Batliwala released this information in an interview with Nehru's paper, **National Herald**, shortly after leaving the CP to join the Congress party, according to a recent issue of the Indian revolutionary journal, the **Spark**.

During the August 1942 mass struggle for independence, a selected number of CP members had been released from prison on condition that they support the British war policy—which then suited the interests of the Kremlin. Baltiwala tells how he learned of the CP-CID alliance:

"I accidentally landed on a file about whose existence even as a member of the Central Committee of the party I was not aware. It was a 'confidential file' which was for the exclusive use of the Politbureau only. This file contained correspondence exchanged between Comrade P. C. Joshi (the Indian Stalinist boss) and Sir Reginald Maxwell . . .

"I assert that the correspondence would conclusively prove that an alliance existed between the Politbureau of the Communist Party and the Home Department of the Government of India, by which Mr. Joshi was placing at the disposal of the Government of India the services of its party members.

"The manner and method of operation of this alliance was a closely guarded secret even inside the party. It is absolutely clear that the various political drives undertaken by the party in the name of anti-fascist campaigns were a part of the arrangement which helped the Government of India to tide over certain crises . . .

"I challenge him (Joshi) to contradict me when I say that he detailed certain party members without the knowledge of the Central Committee or the rank and file of the party to be in touch with the Army Intelligence Department and supply the CID chiefs with such information as they would require against nationalist workers who were connected with the 1942 struggle or against persons who had come to India on behalf of the Azad Hind Government of Netaji Chandra Bose."

Lessons For Jews In Fight On British Rule Of Palestine

By Dan Shelton

The various investigations and committees on Palestine can be correctly understood only in terms of England's long-term imperialist policy, an integral part of which is England's need and desire to appease the Arab world. While the Jews have become weaker than ever, carrying virtually no weight in the game of power politics, the Arab states with their vast oil regions, their strategic location, their budding nationalism, are a force to be reckoned with.

"Explorations" of the Jewish Refugee Problem began in 1933 with the League of Nations Commission and are still going strong in 1946. The only difference is that the plight of some 8 to 10 million Jews no longer need be "explored" inasmuch as they are already dead. These hypocritical "investigations" continued all through Hitler's regime.

In 1942 thirty-two governments came together at Evian to "explore." In 1943 they converged again at the Bermuda resorts, and arrived at "secret decisions" which up to the present have not been divulged!

HARRISON REPORT

In 1945, President Truman found it necessary to obtain still another report on Jewry's fate. Surprising enough, this Harrison report demanded action. "Action" came in the shape of an Anglo-American Committee on Palestine, instructed to explore the situation, with a three-month deadline.

Today, nine months after the creation of said committee, exactly nothing has been done, although even this hand-picked committee, shocked by the Jewry's plight, was forced to recommend immediate immigration of 100,000 Jews into Palestine. The English government (under the Laborites!) refuses to abide by the decisions of its own committee, continuing to stall. While investigations continue, so does the decimation of world Jewry.

What should Jewry's program be in the face of this unparalleled catastrophe and the criminal policies of "its" Allied friends?

SLOGANS FOR STRUGGLE

Today more than ever, it is clear that salvation lies only in the Jewry's coupling their struggle with that of the world working class.

In Europe, the Jews must fight shoulder to shoulder with the workers against the decayed capitalist system which is no longer able to offer even the elementary needs of life.

In Palestine, the Jews must unite with the Arabs in a truly anti-imperialist struggle. "Drive the British out of Palestine!" and "For a Free Palestine!"—these are the slogans of the hour.

Any struggle in Palestine is doomed to defeat beforehand unless it is a struggle to the end against imperialist overlords. Episodic raids and battles with the English troops count for nothing, in the absence of an integrated, all-embracing fight for the independence of Palestine. The untapped and tremendous reservoir of Arab peasants and workers must become an integral part of the anti-imperialist struggle. Without it, failure is unavoidable; with it, success is bound to come.

But to gain the Arabs' support in an anti-imperialist struggle, the Jewish workers must first cleanse their ranks of the chauvinist and class collaborationist Zionist policies and slogans—these proponents of the "pure" Jewish state, with its program of dominance over the Arabs. They must implacably fight against racial unions, closed to the Arabs, against the concept of a "closed" Jewish economy and all the rest of this Jewish "master-race" poison.

They must approach the Arab workers as equals and allies, fighting together in the same unions and unified organizations for common aims. Jewish labor should demand the convocation of a Constituent Assembly, where Jews and Arabs would democratically determine their own fate. Their goal must be the creation of an independent Socialist Palestine as part of the Near-Eastern Socialist Federation.

TASKS TODAY

It is necessary to fight for this program within the Hagana, in order to win over the Jewish masses inside the Hagana to a genuine militant program that will "drive the British out of Palestine." Inside this mass organization, predominantly composed of workers and commune farmers, it is necessary to expose the Hagana's reactionary leadership and its self-defeating politics of compromise and appeasement of the imperialist rulers.

There is undoubtedly growing dissatisfaction of the rank and file inside the Hagana with the false policies of the leadership. The task is to break this rank and file from the Zionist program and tie it to a truly anti-chauvinist, anti-imperialist program.

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Only the world revolution can save the USSR for socialism. But the world revolution carries with it the inescapable blotting out of the Kremlin oligarchy.

—Leon Trotsky

Reuther's Promise

One month ago United Auto Workers President Walter Reuther promised to lead a fight "to re-open all wage contracts if a new and better OPA is not passed by Congress."

Since then a new OPA has been passed, but nobody who wants to prevent price rises would ever call it "better." On the contrary, it legalizes price rises.

After the new OPA became law, it was up to Reuther to make good on his promise. But so far he has remained silent.

Why? One explanation has been offered in a July 27 report from Detroit to the **N. Y. Times.** This report says that UAW leaders "have abandoned any thought at present of new wage increases in favor of an all-out effort to preserve the present purchasing power of the dollar." It also says that adoption of such a policy is on the agenda of the UAW International Executive Board meeting, beginning August 5.

If this report is true — and Reuther's silence up to now lends support to it — then the UAW and the labor movement generally are faced with a terrible danger.

The struggle for price control is a necessary and progressive struggle today. But as long as control over prices is in the hands of the corporation agents on the OPA and the Decontrol Board, this struggle cannot be effective. To be successful, control over prices must be vested in mass consumers' committees really interested in protecting the consumers.

Neither Reuther nor Murray nor any other national trade union leader is trying to secure that kind of price control. They are content to leave price control in the hands of government officials who want higher prices and profits. As long as that remains the case, prices will keep going up and the workers' living standards will keep going down. Under these conditions, an economic disaster lies ahead for the workers — unless the unions fight to win back on the wage front what they are losing on the price front.

The struggle for price control must continue, but it cannot be separated from the struggle for wage raises to offset rising prices. Whoever tries to separate these struggles, whoever offers the fight for government price control as a substitute for the wage fight, is leading the labor movement into a trap, where its living standards will be drastically reduced.

Reuther, Murray and the others are responding to the pressure of the government and the capitalist press. It is now up to the members of the unions to exert their own pressure, by demanding immediate wage raises. This demand is best expressed in the slogan of the sliding scale of wages — an escalator clause in all union contracts to provide automatic wage raises to meet the rising cost of living.

Congress' Record

The members of Congress are preparing to close shop in Washington and get home for the 1946 election campaigns. Then the air will be filled with long and loud speeches about how the members of Congress labored in the interests of the American people.

But these speeches will be filled with lies and falsifications. The actual record of Congress **during just the last two months** proves that it legislated not for the American people but for their masters in Wall Street.

First of all, on the price issue. The consumers made it plain to all that they were opposed to any further price rises. Congress gave them a new OPA which guarantees both higher prices and higher profits for the corporations.

Housing has been one of the nation's most pressing problems since the end of war. But Congress has steadfastly refused to pass the Wagner-Ellender-Taft bill to clear away slums and build low-cost homes.

Congress used to say that nothing was too good for the boys in the armed forces. But it has thus far refused to even permit a vote on the Amputees Auto Bill to provide specially-equipped automobiles at government expense for veterans who lost limbs during the war.

Lynching and mob violence against Negroes increase daily, and millions of white and Negro citizens are denied the right to vote by the poll tax. Meanwhile the Anti-Lynching Bill and the Anti-Poll Tax Bill remain pigeonholed in Congress.

Congress refuses to do anything for crippled and homeless veterans. But it passed a bill appropriating almost 12 **billion** dollars for the Army and Navy for the next year. This money will be used to prepare for World War III — and for the creation of more crippled and homeless veterans.

Congress refuses to raise the minimum wage for workers, but it voted itself a 50 per cent increase in salary.

This is only part of the record of this capitalist Congress. Yet its members have the nerve to request re-election!

It is high time for labor to place its own candidates in Washington.

It is high time to build an Independent Labor Party.

Bikini And Paris

Washington carefully timed the explosion of atomic bomb No. 4 to coincide with the Foreign Ministers' Conference in Paris last month. The June 22 **Militant** explained, "The Paris conference table at which Byrnes sits will be lighted up by the frightful glare of the atomic bomb explosion at Bikini." At the meeting of the Foreign Ministers, said **The Militant,** Wall Street was developing "a ruthless power play against the Soviet Union."

The capitalist press denied that the explosion of bomb No. 4 had anything to do with the Foreign Ministers' Conference.

But Washington repeated this power play on the opening of the Paris "Peace" Conference! This parley was scheduled to open July 29. Byrnes left the airport on July 27. Just two days before, on July 25, atomic bomb No. 5 was exploded at Bikini.

This bomb was touched off under water with far more spectacular results than bomb No. 4, which was a kind of curtain raiser by comparison. The Paris "Peace" Conference is a more important gathering than the Foreign Ministers' parley and requires a more impressive demonstration of Wall Street's military power.

The first bomb at Bikini had left doubts in the minds of some about the colossal destructive power of the atomic bomb. These doubts were probably removed by the second explosion. The $400,000,000 guinea pig fleet was battered and ruined, the ocean floor at Bikini littered with the hulks of mighty ships that could have carried food to the famine-stricken areas of the earth.

In Wall Street's drive for world power, the atomic bomb demonstrations are designed to terrorize and intimidate the peoples of the earth. The demonstrations underline the ominus meaning of Washington's continued manufacture of atomic bombs.

The mushrooming columns of radio-active gases and mist at Bikini were set off to impress on the world that Byrnes sitting down at the "Peace" Conference at Paris represents the most powerful military force the world has yet seen. When Byrnes speaks, back of his words lies the threat of the atomic bomb.

The fearful shadow of Bikini rests over the Paris meeting.

Smear Technique

In the February 1946 **Political Affairs,** organ of the American Stalinists, Max Weiss called for ruthless struggle against **The Militant** and the Trotskyists. To aim the fire more effectively, he directed the Stalinists to "end certain tendencies toward bandying about the word 'Trotskyite' as an epithet against all forces that oppose us in the labor movement."

Here are some recent examples of how the Stalinists have carried out this directive.

A June 13 editorial in the **Daily Worker** called Max Eastman "a follower of the notorious Trotsky." Eastman is not a Trotskyist. He is a bitter opponent of Trotskyism.

The June 29 **Daily Worker** called Herbert Solow a "professional red-baiter and Trotzkyite.' Solow too is an opponent of Trotskyism.

On June 15, Mike Gold declared in the **Daily Worker** that the "little rodent of a phony newspaper man, Victor Riesel of the **New York Post** played his usual Trotskyite role by repeating this fascist slander." As is well-known in the labor movement, "rodent" Riesel is no more a Trotskyist than is sewer-rat Gold.

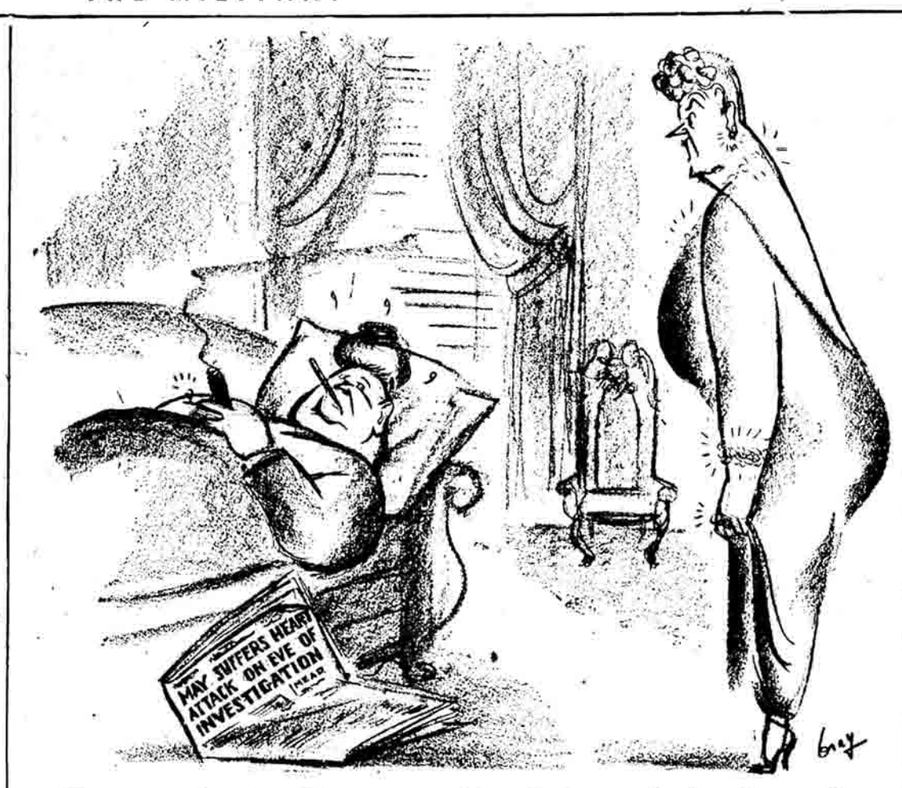
On June 4 Gold listed as "Trotskyites" — Capt. Joseph Medill Patterson, owner and editor of the **Daily News,** James T. Farrell and Edmund Wilson. Patterson before his death was a leading isolationist who supported World War II, just as Gold did. Patterson was **not** a Trotskyist. Edmund Wilson is not a Trotskyist; in fact he is not a political figure at all. James T. Farrell is not a Trotskyist but a novelist who has actively opposed the Stalinist mud-slinging machine.

The latest Stalinist smear is an editorial on China in the July 27 **Daily Worker.** "There was the statement yesterday," says this editorial, "from a committee of 38 made up of assorted reactionaries — among them prominent Trotzkyites — demanding that the United States cease aiding the Chinese Communists. Only the Trotzkyites and Social Democrats could think that one up."

Truly only a Stalinist editor could think that one up. Not a single Trotskyist signed the statement referred to. They couldn't, because the Trotskyists have been in the forefront demanding that the United States **cease aiding Chiang Kai-shek.**

In our last issue, **The Militant** ran an editorial opposing U. S. aid to "the hated reactionary regime of dictator Chiang Kai-shek." This editorial carried the unmistakable caption: "Withdraw the Troops."

How could the Stalinist hacks have mistaken our position on China? There was no mistake. It's simply a case of the Stalinist smear technique — what Trotsky-baiter Max Weiss calls "bandying about the word 'Trotskyite' as an epithet."



"For heaven's sake—Why are you doing that now when we have a dinner engagement—you don't have to testify till next week!"

Workers' BOOKSHELF

THE GLASS MENAGERIE, a play by Tennessee Williams, Random House, 124 pp., $2.

This is one of the rare plays with a deep social content. Its characters are not mere symbols of the social process; they retain their individuality throughout the play. At the same time, the author never lets the audience forget that man is a product of his society.

The setting is in St. Louis, where the conflicting traditions of the North and South meet and clash. It is one of those mid-western cities where the declining, decadent middle-classes predominate.

The play is sparing in the use of scenery as well as of actors, of which there are but four. A mother, half-living in the memories of the secure Mississippi plantation life of her youth, deserted by a husband, tired of and frustrated by the family bond. Her crippled daughter, Laura, fated to lead a spinster's life, seeks pleasure in collecting little glass animals. A son, who works in a warehouse sacrifices his loftier ambitions to contribute to the support of the family. He escapes the hell of his life by going to the movies night after night. The "gentleman caller" is invited to dinner through the mother's design to get him "acquainted" with Laura.

The gentleman caller is touched by Laura's sweetness and beauty, and becomes aware of what really stunts her inner growth. But he can only repeat the empty phrases about "self-confidence" and "making friends" and "success" which he has absorbed in business schools. To obey his own needs, the son leaves home, unable however to banish the haunting image of his sister: that is, unable to shake off the unsolved problems of his home by running away from them.

The play portrays an aspect of the reality of the dissolution of the family. The terribly demoralizing role of the movies in America is depicted, with the false illusions and values it creates; the phony outlet it provides for the hunger of life, for the restlessness of the masses for something better than the hateful drudgery of their daily existence.

The desire of millions of young people to get on in life, the confidence of youth in the future and how this confidence is victimized by the phony preachers of success and reliance upon this system is characterized in the "gentleman caller," typical of the blind middle class.

The most subtle symbolism lies in the "glass menagerie," the little collection of glass animals upon which Laura bestows all her fondness. Laura incorporates the fate of many lost and lonely women of our society, whose love and energy is wasted upon figures of glass; wasted as the energies of millions in the futility of the daily rut, wasted as the wonderful and vital energies of youth are wasted in the armies of the world.

This is a play of uncompromising seriousness. The superb acting and well-designed scenery convey the intensity of a social atmosphere and the tragedy not only of the individuals involved, but of a whole class.

Reviewed by Eugene Shays

Congressmen At Work

Making The Next War Scientific

In the debate over Senate Bill 1850 to subsidize the training of some 18,000 American youths as basic scientists, Wall Street's Congressmen revealed how education under capitalism is tied to the most reactionary aims.

On July 1, Senator Harley M. Kilgore (Democrat of West Virginia) argued for the bill along the following lines: "The Civil War was fought with probably a minimum of scientific effort on both sides . . . The Spanish-American War was a rehash of the same situation . . . World War I . . . was really the first scientifically waged war . . . Finally there came World War II. On that occasion we set up several scientific agencies . . . In each case, however, all the scientific agencies were merely using the basic information which had been developed during time of peace."

The Senator declared that "one of the difficulties" of World War II was "the failure to have well-rounded research development." In preparation for the Third World War, he wants to do away with this difficulty. With tens of thousands of the most brilliant minds among the youth uncovering fresh secrets of nature, imagine what tremendously destructive weapons can be produced!

The sponsors of the bill include six Democrats and two Republicans, since both capitalist parties agree on the plans for another war. Among the Big Business backers of the subsidy program are General Electric, Westinghouse, General Motors and such a well-known Wall Street figure as Bernard Baruch. As Kilgore put the problem, "it is highly necessary that we subsidize — and I use that word without apology — the crop of young scientists in this country."

To make clear that the subsidies are not intended for the benefit of the youth, but solely to provide the war machine with basic scientists, Kilgore pointed out: "The recipients are subject, as they always have been, to furnishing themselves as cannon fodder in the event of war."

On one provision, differences did arise. Senator Elbert D. Thomas (Democrat of Utah) had included a "Division of Social Sciences" under the subsidy program. Thomas taught sociology at the University of Utah before he jumped on the Roosevelt bandwagon. He understands how the "social sciences" are taught in the colleges to glorify the capitalist system. He wanted to give the professors in this field a little recognition for their valuable services.

Senator George L. Radcliffe (Democrat of Maryland) opposed this provision. He was "appalled at the idea of opening up the social sciences without any charting of what the investigators are to study or how they are to go about it." He admitted that the program could not be "used to any considerable extent to foment various kind of insidious doctrines" but "if an allotment is made to a certain university, and the head of a particular department is a man addicted to certain isms, he might use the fund for that purpose."

Senator J. William Fulbright (Democrat of Arkansas) tried to tip off Radcliffe on the real score: " . . . I think it will be very difficult, as a practical matter, for the social scientists to get very big slices of pie, if that is what the Senator means." Fulbright outlined the kind of projects the "social scientists" would be confined to — re-writing history in an "objective way" and so on. "I think the Senator will agree that that type of project is not very revolutionary."

In Fulbright's view, research in the social sciences "would have nothing to do with communism, socialism, or any matter of that kind." Instead, the scientists would be put to work on problems of concern to Big Business and its military caste such as "psychological warfare."

NEW YORK

Indonesian Republic Anniversary Rally

FRIDAY, AUG. 16, 8 p.m.

Speakers:

JOHN R. ANDU, President, Indonesia League of America
JOSEPH HANSEN, Socialist Workers Party
PEARL BUCK, East-West Assn.
FRANK CROSSWAITH, Negro Labor Comm.
MAURICE ROSENBLATT, American League for Free Palestine
NORMAN THOMAS, Socialist Party

LABOR TEMPLE
242 East 14th St.

Auspices: Indonesia League of America

Withdrawal Of The Occupation Troops

An important resolution on the Withdrawal of Occupation Troops, unanimously adopted by the International Executive Committee of the Fourth International in June 1946, is reprinted in full in the August issue of **Fourth International,** monthly magazine of the American Trotskyists, now on sale.

The resolution characterizes the occupation policies and the holding of millions of prisoners of war as a direct continuation of war. "Consequently the continuation of the struggle which the Fourth International and its sections have carried on throughout the war for the disintegration of the armed forces of capitalism, for the fraternization of the workers of all countries, 'Allied' or 'Enemy,' in uniform or out of uniform, must find its expression in a struggle against the maintenance of the military apparatus, against military occupation, for the liberation of all prisoners of war, and for the international solidarity of the proletariat.

"In this struggle the Fourth International denounces any and all pretexts which cover up this reactionary policy of the imperialists and of the Soviet bureaucracy. In opposition to the machinations of their secret diplomacy, it sets up the slogan of the right of self-determination of the peoples of the European and colonial countries.

"The Fourth International demands the withdrawal of all foreign armies, including the Red Army, from all occupied territories. It opposes all annexations, reparations, forced transfers of populations and the detention of millions of German and Japanese workers as prisoners of war, either by the imperialists or by the Soviet bureaucracy. The Fourth International recognizes no other frontiers than those drawn by the culture and freely expressed preferences of the populations concerned."

Revolutionary Policy

In opposition to the bankrupt policies of the imperialists and the Stalinist bureaucrats, the resolution continues, "the Fourth International counterposes the revolutionary struggle of the exploited masses of all countries for the triumph of the world socialist revolution and the Federation of the Socialist United States of Europe and of the world."

In demanding the withdrawal of the Red Army from the countries it occupies, the Fourth International does not at all abandon its policy of unconditional defense of the Soviet Union against imperialist attack.

"But the defense of the planned state economy of the USSR as well as that of the progressive reforms carried out in Eastern Europe cannot be assured by purely military means, and especially not by occupation of territories for a strategic purpose.

"Real defense is based first of all on the free revolutionary activity of the masses which must assure the total victory of the proletarian revolution. The masses of the countries at present must feel absolutely free, without any pressure, to determine their own fate. The occupation of these countries by the Red Army, the burdens imposed upon them, their treatment as defeated countries can only harm the fundamental interests of the world socialist revolution and dangerously compromise in the eyes of the masses the defense of the USSR against imperialist attacks." Examples of this were seen in the elections in Hungary, Austria and Germany.

"Consequently, the unconditional defense of the USSR cannot, in the zone occupied by the Red Army, lead to any policy of support even provisional or temporary, with this or that bourgeois or petty-bourgeois clique or organization which banks on the bureaucracy, as against bourgeois or petty-bourgeois parties which bank on imperialism.

Real Defense Of USSR

"It can be applied only by an energetic carrying out of uncompromising class struggle of the proletariat against its own bourgeoisie. That is why the slogan 'immediate departure of the occupation troops' and an energetic campaign against the barbarous methods of the bureaucracy are alone capable of rehabilitating the policy of the defense of the USSR by clearly indicating that the defense of the USSR nowise justifies the crimes of Stalin."

Where reactionary movements backed by imperialism attempt to overthrow the more or less statified economy in the occupied countries in order to establish a base for attacking the Soviet Union, "we oppose such a movement and fight alongside the Red Army for the defeat of the imperialists and their agents, until the workers in that country are able to stand alone against the bourgeois counter-revolution."

The resolution concludes by indicating how this policy should be applied in different countries and calling for internationalist fraternization with the soldiers of the occupying armies. It warns that in the occupied countries the policy must be applied "in such a way that it cannot be used against the Soviet Union to the advantage of the imperialists."

Ruptured Duck Now A Homing Pigeon

That famous bird the ruptured duck, emblem of honorable service in Uncle Sam's armed force, is rapidly becoming a homing pigeon headed for a spot in the dresser drawer beside other souvenirs of war.

A survey of more than two dozen men out of service more than three months revealed one wearing the button. He explained: "I put it in the lapel of this suit when I got out. Now I wear the same suit every day, because it's the only one I've got."

Two buttonless veterans had definite, thought-out reasons why they did not wear the emblem. One said:

"Why let on you're a veteran? It doesn't mean anything—no housing, the OPA kicked to hell, and the big dealers already talking about the third war * * * the ruptured duck, my eye, a badge for suckers is a better name for it."

The other, a tall Navy veteran, said:

"I didn't wear the ruptured duck because I didn't like it. I had five years in the Navy and the way things look maybe I'll be back in soon. Who knows —I might prefer the War Three design."

—Newark Evening News, N. J. July 15

WORKERS' FORUM

The Workers' Forum columns are open to the opinions of the readers of "The Militant". Letters are welcome on any subject of interest to the workers. Keep them short and include your name and address. Indicate if you do not want your name printed.

Injuries to 30 "No Excuse" For Going Home

Editor:

On June 26 I was putting labels on bottles at a plant in the Publicker Alcohol Distilleries in Philadelphia. The time was 1:40. In 20 minutes the bell would ring for our 10 minute relief period, when we could get outside that sweat factory (there are no fans).

The building, covering an entire city block, has two large rooms on every floor. Suddenly, from the room back of us a woman ran screaming—"Fire!"

In that room are several 1,000 gallon tanks of alcohol. We didn't know how soon an explosion would kill us all. Everyone not petrified ran for the doorway; some fainted. The stairway was jammed. No one could move. There was pushing, shoving, screaming. Several women fell. One girl was stopped from jumping out of the third floor window.

The episode ended abruptly. Our foreman ordered: "Everyone back to your seats. It's all over." Four minutes to relief time!

More than 30 women had been injured. Some were taken to the hospital, others to the nurse. The rest of us went back to our seats. The belt started. Production must go on!

When the relief bell rang, we gathered outside to talk about going home for the day, for all of us were shaken. The company's answer to our delegate was:

"No one is compelled to work for this company. Anyone wanting to go home can do so but needn't come back."

F. B.
Philadelphia

Eyewitness Report On Congress

Editor:

A few days ago I happened to be going through Washington and I visited the Senate. The Senators were debating Price Control. I was deeply struck by what I had been reading in **The Militant**—that there is no one in the Senate who takes the position of the working people.

For instance, Senator Wherry of Nebraska, who hates all price control, argued for an amendment guaranteeing each retailer a sales price to include every increase in cost since 1940, even though the retailer's volume gives him a huge profit anyhow.

Senator Barkley, the "liberal" in charge of the price control bill, fought the amendment saying that the retailers are making enough already. He read figures showing unbelievable profits even without Senator Wherry's amendment. Of course, neither of these men touched any fundamental problem. It was just a case of one man wanting much more and the other saying that money was rolling in satisfactorily.

A little later, Senator Pepper made a very able speech for extending the previous OPA bill. He spoke of the "people's" rights and interests. He denounced senators who had cut OPA oppropriations and made it hard to wipe out the black market. He certainly seemed sincere. He was making a record for himself. But of course, he did not for one second discuss fundamental problems—how to produce more so that there will be no black market, how to distribute what can be produced.

Both sides were arguing for scarcity. There was just a difference of opinion about how to keep things orderly. Wherry and Taft wanted an open return to the '20s. Pepper and Barkley wanted to appease workers a little bit.

Just a few labor representatives in the Senate that day would probably have turned Congress upside down. At least they alone could have brought out the real issues.

A Reader
Chicago

Workers In Reading Face Eviction From Housing Project

Editor:

Executive directors of the housing project in Reading were authorized to survey wages and rents of tenants in 400 dwellings, to find out who has a greater income than was called for at the outset of the housing program, before the war.

Directors now claim that incomes of about 100 of these working class families are too high for project homes. The incomes of these workers are $30 to $55 a week. To think that such earnings are "too high!" Living costs increased throughout the OPA. Workers face inflationary prices caused by Big Business. Do the directors want workers to refuse a wage increase so they can stay in their homes?

Project directors are men like Ernest B. Posey, who paid workers 40 cents an hour in 1929 when he had the street cleaning and street repair contracts in Reading. Is that what he wants workers to get today?

These directors also claim that because of OPA ceilings on rents, they cannot get a proportionate share of the workers' incomes. Now they seek removals by raising rents.

Where could these workers go? Don't the directors know there's a housing shortage — or do they forget, because they themselves have homes to go to?

Big Business is responsible for the housing shortage. During the war, not one bill was passed in Congress for housing workers. Instead, Congress was taking care of its own class, the capitalists, with such things as guaranteed profits and billions in tax refunds.

Under capitalism the workers have no right to live!

William Moore
Reading, Pa.

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The Militant
Use Coupon On Page 2

It Makes A Lot Of Difference

Editor:

I am sure you have noticed how active the authorities in Nassau County have been in trying to track down the criminal in the sensational murder-rape case of a wealthy family in that county. A lot different from the way they proceeded when the Freeport cop Romeika shot down two Negro veterans in cold blood in the same county.

It seems to make a lot of difference if the victims are wealthy white people or poor Negro people.

You also may be interested in a story printed in the **Nassau Daily Review-Star** on July 25. It is entitled, "Cops Couldn't Shoot, Injured Puppy Lives," and begins as follows:

"Freeport police are just a bunch of softies when it comes to shooting helpless little puppies. They just haven't got the heart for that kind of business. Especially when the pup is only three months old and has hardly begun to feel his way around."

And it goes on and on about how five cops just couldn't bring themselves to kill a pup injured by an auto, and finally took it to a cat-and-dog hospital.

Maybe they should have called in Romeika.

R. N.
New York City

Militant Tells News Others Don't Print

Editor:

Enclosed is a $1 bill for renewal of my subscription to **The Militant** for one year. I find news therein that we do not read of in ordinary papers or magazines. Continue telling the truth.

P. L. D.
West Lawn, Pa.

Victimization Of Civil Service Workers

Editor:

Civilian workers employed by the Army and Navy in the Philadelphia area are being forced through wage withholding and threats of discharge, to sign affidavits stating that they do not belong to any union advocating a strike against the government.

The U. S. Civil Service Commission is trying to weaken the present trade union organization of federal workers, and prepare for further attacks on the union movement in anticipation of coming wage struggles.

Federal workers have been ordered to sign the following: "I hereby swear that I am not engaged in any strike against the government . . . am not a member of an organization of government employes that asserts the right to strike against the government . . . and that I will not while a government employe become a member of such an organization."

Workers are told that if they refuse to sign they will not receive their pay even if wages have already been earned; and that they will automatically lose their jobs. Thus since July 1 thousands of federal workers have been pressured into signing away their civil rights.

The U. S. Civil Service Circular 560, June 1946, incorporated into the War Dept. Civilian Personnel Circular 73 of July, 1946, states:

"Any person who engages in a strike against the government . . . or who is a member of an organization of government employes that asserts the right to strike against the government . . . and accepts (civil service) employment . . . shall be guilty of felony and upon conviction shall be fined not more than $1,000 or imprisoned for not more than one year."

This order makes it possible to discharge, fine, imprison, or discriminate against any government worker belonging to any trade union.

C. Blake
Philadelphia

Unbiased Information

Editor:

We have enjoyed reading **The Militant** and the unbiased information on the current issues and problems for struggling humanity.

Mrs. O. E.
Benson, Minn.

CHICAGO
Frolics of 1946
Music . . . Dancing
Comedy . . . Drama
Saturday, Aug. 10
777 W. Adams 9 p.m.

Mail This Blank For Your Reservation At
Mid-West Vacation Camp And School
Season June 30-Aug. 17 *Adults $25 week. Children $15*
OSCAR COOVER, Manager **Grass Lake, Mich.**
Reserve accommodations for below from..... to.....
Family ☐ Couple ☐ Single ☐ (check one)
List all who will attend:
Name .....
(Mr., Mrs., Miss)
List Children and Age .....
I enclose $..... (as deposit .....) (full payment.....)
Name of Applicant .....
(Please sign)
Address .....
City & Zone ..... **State**.....

Police Attack Pickets

Police brutality against strikers raged in Los Angeles as cops injured three workers on the picket line at the Pacific Press plant. Members of the AFL International Printing Pressmen's and Assistant's Union were attacked as they tried to prevent scabs from crossing their line.

—Federated Pictures

Louisiana Sawmill Workers In Bitter 4-Month Strike

Editor:

People in the sawmill town of Long Leaf, Louisiana, are getting a dose of capitalist misery and starvation. **The Militant** has already reported how workers at Crowell's mill have been on strike since April, trying to hike their miserable wage.

This Crowell miser owns the company houses. The workers pay high rent to Crowell, who pays them 45 cents an hour. Crowell, a millionaire, has now served eviction notices on the workers who have been walking the picket line over four months with no financial help. Some of these workers slaved for him under sweatshop conditions for 30 years.

I have been on the picket line and talked with the workers. The AFL union involved seems to be doing a poor job. The organizer was not available, so I couldn't get his side of the story. But for one thing, the picket line is nowhere near the mill, but a half mile away. Scabs work inside, rumor has it, dismantling the mill. Crowell can afford to shut down the mill and starve the workers; he has other mills.

Another sign of poor procedure is the fact that principally Negroes have manned the picket line. Everyone knows that at the present time a Negro picket line in the deep South cannot be as effective as a mixed picket line. A Negro can be lynched down here for calling a scab a SCAB.

There is another even more alarming sign. The men walked out demanding a 16 cent an hour increase. Now they find the union trying to settle for 3 cents an hour! Three cents, when in the past months the cost of living has skyrocketed so that even with a 100 per cent raise, they still couldn't make ends meet.

Crowell doesn't mean to settle the strike with any sort of increase. The workers he has starved and drained of bodily strength and hope, will be disregarded by this greedy small-time Rockefeller, hoarding his bloody dollars while he puts the wives and children of the workers onto the streets.

But Crowell and his kind have had their day! The future belongs to the workers and farmers of America and the world. The signs are fewer in the South, but in strongly unionized areas like Detroit, the struggle of the workers against the bosses is bearing hopeful fruit. Let the workers of the South wake up, too, to the strength of a united working class.

When the workers of the land unite against the profiteers, those money grabbers, including Crowell, will find out what it's like to do a day's work for a change.

Kent Darrow
Long Leaf, La.

Youth Group Activities

NEW YORK. — For information on the Trotskyist Youth Group send name and address to 116 University Place, N. Y. 3, N. Y.

Every Sunday: Beach Party at Brighton Beach between Bay 7-8 (take BMT to Ocean P'way).

Open Forum: Every Friday, 8 p.m., at 116 University Place. Dancing, refreshments follow.

Brooklyn: Class on "Struggle for Negro Equality." Instructor: Harry Robinson. Every Tuesday at 7:30 p.m. at Brooklyn headquarters. SWP, 635 Fulton Street. Dancing, refreshments.

Queens — Open forums every Wednesday at Odd Fellows Temple, 160th St. and 90th Ave., 8 p.m.

PHILADELPHIA. — Youth Forums held every Saturday, 8 p.m. 1303-05 W. Girard, 2nd floor.

LOS ANGELES. — Socialist Youth Club meets every Thursday, 8 p.m., at SWP headquarters, 316½ W. Pico Blvd. Educationals by Youth and SWP speakers.

Subscribe to "Young Militant," published semi-monthly, for truth of youth's struggles.

* * *

Watch this column for further announcements of youth activities.

'New Masses' Slander

Editor:

I'm not a communist, but a young worker. I read in **New Masses** a terrible attack on Trotsky and you — and was simply shocked at the way you people lack courage to answer them back! Why?

I'm still expecting a front page article in answer to the **New Masses** article and cartoon.

W. E. M.
Chicopee Falls, Mass.

* * *

The above is a reference to the slanderous "review" of Trotsky's biography of Stalin (**New Masses**, June 25). This was answered by Charles Carsten in **The Militant**, July 6.—The Editors.

A New Pamphlet *JUST OUT!*
Only Victorious Socialist Revolutions Can Prevent The Third World War!
—the historic MANIFESTO of the Fourth International, April 1496
—first printed in The Militant of May 11 and now issued in convenient pamphlet form
32 Pages **10 Cents**
PIONEER **PUBLISHERS**
116 University Place, New York 3, N. Y.

Pioneer Notes

Within a week Pioneer Publishers, 116 University Place, New York 3, N. Y., will issue its fifth new pamphlet of 1946 (besides two new books this year). **Build a Labor Party NOW!** by George Clarke (16 pages, 10c) is the new title, with cover design by Laura Gray, popular cartoonist of **The Militant.**

Build a Labor Party NOW! is extremely timely for this election year, when the Socialist Workers Party has entered candidates in at least five states. This punchy pamphlet is a revision of three articles by George Clarke that appeared in **The Militant** in June. It will be valuable campaign material not only for the SWP but for many trade unionists who want to see a real labor party in America now.

* * *

Pioneer's most recent popular pamphlet, **Veterans & Labor** (24 pages, 10c) by Charles Carsten, cover by Jean Morgan, is already reaching thousands of ex-service men. In two weeks 3,390 copies have gone to branches of the Socialist Workers Party, to other groups and to individuals.

Harry Ring, organizer of **Brooklyn** SWP branch, comments: "Very attractive pamphlet, **Veterans & Labor**; lively, easy reading, with just the right emphasis in headings and typographical arrangement. Of course we have used our branch rubber stamp in the space provided for that purpose inside the cover. Our veterans like the pamphlet and will make good use of it. You will hear more from us."

No Connection With Akron "ULP" Group

AKRON, Ohio, July 26. — A small group established itself here last week under the name of the United Labor Party of America.

The Akron Branch of the Socialist Workers Party dissociated itself from this group in a press release which said in part:

"The United Labor Party, so-called, is a completely synthetic product. None of the union organizations, the CIO, the AFL or the Railroad Brotherhoods, has endorsed it.

"We stand and have stood for years for a genuine Labor Party based upon and controlled by the trade union movement. Only such a party, free of all association with the Democratic and Republican parties, can represent the labor movement and the interests of the working people.

"The Socialist Workers Party is confident that a genuine Labor Party will develop in America. We are working towards it but we oppose the substitution of small groups for the majority of the working people who speak and act through their unions."

Philadelphia SWP Holds Konikow MemorialMeeting

By C. Blake

PHILADELPHIA, July 27—Members and friends of the Socialist Workers Party here this week honored the memory of Antoinette Konikow, 76-year-old pioneer revolutionist who died this month. At the meeting, held July 22, a new member — the youngest in the Philadelphia branch — was enrolled in the SWP. This was an inspiring symbol of the continuation of the struggle for socialism, to which Comrade Antoinette had devoted six decades of her life.

Max Geldman, Philadelphia SWP organizer, described a recent visit to Boston, where Antoinette, despite her advanced age, was still seeking new ways to implement the revolutionary socialist program. She had hoped to pioneer a Russian language revolutionary paper, to reach Russian emigres with the message of Trotskyism.

Howard Gleason described her long history in the Marxist movement, concluding: "Comrade Konikow is not dead. Her ideas, the program for which she fought throughout her life, live on in the Socialist Workers Party."

Rose Carey acted as chairman. The meeting closed with the singing of The Internationale.

Newark Picnic
Sunday, August 18
From 11 a.m. to 8 p.m.
Sickinger's Grove
In Uniontown, N. J.
Transportation Provided
Tickets at
423 Springfield Ave.

THE MILITANT ARMY

Monthly Sub Quotas Set By SWP Members

Branches of the Socialist Workers Party are setting voluntary quotas of subscriptions to **The Militant**, based upon the individual pledges of branch members.

Detroit Branch set a goal of 100 subs a month, according to E. Brent. "We now have a chart made up to record the subs brought in by each comrade," she writes; "and it is a nice one. I'm in the lead so far with 38 points, E. Drake has 19, Kay O'Brien has 14, J. Miller 6, Carli 5. It will be more fun this month to see who can get the most subs —Eastside or Westside Branch."

* * *

Flint Branch decided upon a quota of 35 subs a month. Jerry Kirk writes: "We are concentrating on renewals through branch mobilizations."

Bob Chester for **San Francisco Branch** states that their quota of 50 subs a month "is definitely on the conservative side, and we are sure we will go over it each month."

Ed Davis reports for **Oakland Branch**: "We are setting a modest quota of 20 subs per month, since we have a number of newer members whose potentialities we are not yet sure of. You can bank on the 20 and I hope more will be forthcoming."

* * *

Milt Genecin of **Akron Branch** says that their quota of 50 subs will apply beginning in August.

Irene Fitzgerald of **Philadelphia Branch** declares: "We shall try to meet 100 subs a month on basis of two subs from some comrades, more from others, plus mobilizations."

Boston Branch set a quota of 40 subs a month, and Larry Turner outlines plans for the future: "In September we intend to launch another local sub drive for at least 300 new readers . . . We are keeping our Boston subscribers at about 400. Lynn has about 75 and with the September sub drive we will bring Lynn up to 400. Worcester has about 50. With luck and the help of the comrades, we hope for a branch there in the fall."

Fred Martin informs us that **Milwaukee Branch** has accepted a quota of two subs per member per month. "The more active comrades will easily fill their quota," he says, "but it will take a little prodding to involve the less active ones."

Portland Branch has set a quota of 14 subs and **Toledo Branch** a quota of 50

* * *

Comrades of the Socialist Workers Party, while vacationing at the Mid-West Vacation Camp and School in Grass Lake, Mich., do not forget **The Militant.** They have sent in six subs from other vacationers in the area.

A. Strobel of Detroit, Mich. renewed his subscription for one year and sent an additional $1: "Please accept $1 for the good and welfare of the paper."

A Militant reader in San Francisco mailed in two 1-year subs.

Steve Hudak of Cleveland, Ohio writes: "I am hereby enclosing $5. $2.50 of this is for my one-year combination renewal. The other $2.50 is my contribution to **The Militant.**"

Comrade Strobel, the friend in San Francisco, and Comrade Hudak are real **Militant** boosters. We welcome you into the ranks of **The Militant Army.**

* * *

A. F. of Vancouver wishes us success: "One of the first columns I read is **The Militant Army.** I am very interested in the growth of **The Militant.** Selling the paper to more and ever more workers is one of the best Party builders there is. So build up the circulation of the paper."

Bayonne SWP Opens New Headquarters

For the first time in the history of the Socialist Workers Party, a headquarters has been established in Hudson County, New Jersey—stronghold of the notorious Hague machine. The address is 62 West 23 St., Bayonne. Open house will be held on the second and fourth Saturdays of each month. A series of additional social and educational activities will be announced in forthcoming issues of **The Militant.**

OUR PROGRAM:

1. Full employment and job security for all workers and veterans!

A sliding scale of hours! Reduce the hours of work with no reduction in pay!

A rising scale of wages! Increase wages to meet the increased cost of living!

Government operation of all idle and government-built plants under workers' control!

Unemployment insurance equal to trade union wages during the entire period of unemployment!

2. Independence of the trade unions from the government!

No restriction on the right to strike!

3. Organization of the war veterans by the trade unions!

4. Full equality for Negroes and national minorities!

Down with Jim Crow!

5. Build an independent labor party!

6. Tax the rich, not the poor!

No taxes on incomes under $5,000 a year!

7. A working class answer to capitalist militarism!

Military training of workers, financed by the government, but under control of the trade unions!

Trade union wages for all workers in the armed forces!

8. Solidarity with the revolutionary struggles of the workers in all lands!

For the complete independence of the colonial peoples!

Withdraw all American troops from foreign soil!

9. For a Workers' and Farmers' Government!

Join the Socialist Workers Party!
SOCIALIST WORKERS PARTY
116 University Place
New York 3, New York
I would like:
☐ To join the Socialist Workers Party.
☐ To obtain further information about your organization.
☐ To attend meetings and forums of the Socialist Workers Party in my city.
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POSTAL ZONE ..... STATE .....

World War II And The Monopolies:

What Is The Future For Monopoly?

By Art Preis

The Senate Small Business Committee, in its voluminous study, "Economic Concentration And World War II," shows with a wealth of data how World War II benefited only Big Business and how the giant monopolies became even more powerful and dominating. (See **The Militant**, July 20 and 27.)

"What will be the effect of this wartime concentration (of wealth and economic power) upon the peacetime economy?", asks the report. "Will the wartime gains in concentration be retained, or increased, or will the economy return to its prewar state? — which, it should not be forgotten was already highly concentrated."

The report states: "During both World Wars, the relative importance of American big business rose sharply. War contracts were issued predominantly to the large concerns, and they accumulated huge profits and controlled the destinies of great numbers of workers."

Pattern Continues

World War II not only continued this historical pattern, it developed it more rapidly than ever. "The evidence is compelling that big business will be able to use a number of other wartime developments to increase its relative importance in the postwar economy. These include such factors as production improvements, scientific research, wartime advertising, increased working capital and new facilities."

The biggest corporations throughout the war were able to "keep their company names, their trade-marks, or their brand names before the public eye by means of expensive advertising campaigns. Much of this was of the so-called institutional type in which the firm identified itself with the war effort. Furthermore, much of it was ultimately paid for by the Federal Government, the advertising campaigns being charged off as an expense before taxes, thereby reducing the corporation's tax payments."

But these are relatively only minor advantages over small competitors gained by the big monopolies during the war. One of the biggest advantages is the increase in working capital accumulated in the hands of a few "giants of industry."

"In the immediate postwar years, big business will have billions of dollars in cash that can be used in a variety of ways to improve its position . . . By the middle of 1945, the 63 largest listed manufacturing corporations with assets of over $100,000,000 (each) had increased their net working capital to 8.4 billion dollars, more than that of all listed manufacturing corporations (802 listed with Securities and Exchange Commission) in 1939, and, for the reasons indicated above (excess profits tax refunds and tax credits) at the end of 1945 they will hold nearly 10 billion dollars of highly liquid working capital."

With this capital, the 63 corporations could buy up at option price all government-owned production facilities or "they could purchase the assets of 71,700 smaller manufacturing corporations with assets of less than $3,000,000 each, which represent 94 per cent of the total number of manufacturing corporations in the United States."

The prospects for further growth of monopoly, the report summarizes, are: "Economic concentration will probably be higher in the postwar years than before the war as a result of: The production improvements and scientific research which big business gained during the war; the increase in liquid funds and general financial strength of big business; the ability of big business to keep its name and trade-marks before the public eye during the war; and finally the fact that big business will probably acquire a greater share of the war-built facilities which it operated than will small business, regardless of whether economic conditions are prosperous or depressed."

Significantly, the report notes: "The rate of mergers and acquisitions in manufacturing was higher in the fourth quarter of 1945 than at any time in the previous decade and a half."

What to do about this tremendous and ever growing concentration of economic power, the very power of life and death over the American people, in the hands of a tiny oligarchy of wealth and privilege?

The Senate committee's report breaks down at this point. In a couple of brief sentences it summarizes its position. It merely states, without any atempt to argue its point, that while the facts it has piled up show that it is "probable" big business will grow still bigger, it should not be concluded that this is "inevitable." "Concentration not only can be held to its present position; it can be reduced substantialily below that level."

Crumbs for Small Business

How? The answer of the committee is given in one sentence. "This would require an anti-trust program, a small business program (including financial aid), and a surplus-disposal program directed, specifically, to assist small business on a scale never before contemplated."

Boiled down to its essence, this program for "substantially" reducing monopoly is—throw a few crumbs to the small businessmen, turn some government-built facilities over to them, help the little capitalist to become bigger and more able to resist the competition of the big corporations. As for an "anti-trust program" — the anti-trust laws on the statute books now cannot be enforced. Big business controls the government too.

This has been the utopian program of the weaker and smaller capitalists since the trusts began to grow. It is, in reality, a program for a return to the era of small-scale production. Those days are gone forever.

The only road is forward. The people want and have a right to more and better things. These are the things which can be secured only by mass production, by organized production on a vast and concentrated scale.

The problem is not the bigness or concentration of production. The problem is **Who controls production.**

Monopoly in the hands of a few tremendously wealthy and powerful families and groups is an inevitable development under capitalism. Under the system of capitalist "free enterprise" the big sharks devour the small. That is what the **facts** in the Senate committee's report prove beyond question.

The same giant plants and facilities which today are used to benefit only the ruling monopolists can also be used to benefit the masses — provided the control is taken away from private individuals and groups and placed in the hands of the working populace.

The Socialist Answer

To capitalist monopoly — its evils of imperialist war and fascism, its depressions and unemployment, its withholding of goods for inflationary price rises, its restriction of production — the only answer is socialism.

The great trusts and monopolies must be expropriated — taken away from the private interests. They must become the property of society as a whole. They must be operated under a system of planned economy and under the control of the workers themselves. Production for the profit of a few must give way to production for the needs of the many.

The end of the private profit system will be the end of private monopolies.

How Public Opinion Is Monopolized

Monopolies dominate in the field of influencing public opinion, reveals the Senate Small Business Committee's report. "Economic Concentration And World War II."

"A high degree of concentration prevails in the publishing of newspapers, periodicals, and books—a fact of obvious social importance," says the report. "It is generally agreed that free critical inquiry and the open expression of opposing points of view comprise one of the essential ingredients of a political democracy.

"It is therefore a matter of concern (1) that citizens in so many communities can buy only **one** daily paper and (2) that in so many cases these single dailies present the point of view of the same newspaper chain."

In 1909 there were about 2,600 daily newspapers, with a circulation of 24.2 million. Though the circulation reached 43.4 million by 1942, the number of dailies fell to 1,787. During the war by 1945, there were 38 less papers, but circulation rose by another 5,000,000.

By 1940 only 181 cities in the country had more than one paper. Newspaper chains controlled about 40 per cent of all daily circulation and 50 per cent of Sunday newspaper circulation. About 21 per cent of total daily circulation was controlled by just six chains of 81 papers — Hearst, Patterson - McCormick, Scripps - Howard, Paul Block, Ridder and Gannett.

"Three organizations—the Associated Press, the United Press, and the International News Service—virtually control the business of news gathering and distribution for the entire country," the report states.

These big newspaper corporations also either "owned or controlled" as of December 31, 1944, a total of 508 radio stations out of the 886 in the entire United States.

— REPORT IN THE SENATE SMALL BUSINESS COMMITTEE

SHOP TALKS ON SOCIALISM

By V. Grey

Growth and Decay

We have seen that wealth in society is created by the physical and mental labor of the working class. We have seen that capital—which is a surplus wealth over and above the capitalists' personal expenditures—is created by labor too. All the things that parade under the fancy names of interest, dividends, rents, profits of enterprise, and so on, are only parts of the huge surplus value produced by the workers.

Now we must see why the workers must wrest the surplus from the capitalists. We must see why the capitalist system is breaking down to the point that the workers **have** to do this even just to defend what they already have.

We learned that factories and machinery, the capitalist method of production, were something new under the sun. We saw that wage workers were something new, too. They displaced the wandering craftsman, the "journeyman," the tinker, the spinner, the weaver and the rest. More accurately, all these things were new once, but now they are old.

Readers of **The Militant** know we predict that these old things, once so new, must give way to still newer things. Privately owned sweatshops shall become modern, airy factories owned by all, under Socialism. Wage slaves shall become free men—masters of nature—joint owners of this planet.

But this may sound like a good program for the dim future. Some people, especially the capitalists, just cannot see it taking place in the present. Others, going a little further, may see such things, for example, as recurring strikes, but fail to see how and why these are the seeds of profound social change, of socialist revolution.

It is by grasping both the growth and the growing old of capitalism itself that we can get the clue to this. The elements of capital: machinery, raw materials, labor power that capital has bought—and the surplus value that is produced—these things constantly undergo change. One begins to eat the other up.

It is like the processes in a human body. It is constantly building up and wearing away. In youth the body is building up faster than it is wearing away. In old age it is just the opposite. Different organs begin feeling the strain in different ways.

We have to study the organs of capital more deeply now in order to analyze the decay of capitalism and understand why it is doomed. We have to see just how and where it is changing, and what has already changed. We have to distinguish one part of capital from another. We have to learn the connection between machinery and labor power. We have to distinguish the dead from the living.

Karl Marx teaches us to do this in the first volume of "Capital." He carefully shows the changing role of machinery in modern industry. He shows why this change, which should be a blessing, has become a curse to the worker. And more important, he shows why it becomes transformed from a lever of capitalistic progress to a millstone around the neck of society, including the capitalists.

He shows the feverish mad rush of the capitalist to "expand or die." He explains that one capitalist must kill many (wipe them out) not just from greed and orneriness, but from the nature of the capitalist system itself.

Capital, when it first expanded over the earth, brought new goods, new ideas, science and many other benefits to the world. Now its expansion is like a spreading blight pushing living things over the borders of death.

What is inside capital, turning it against itself in this way?

(*Continued Next Week*)

Pennsylvania Cannery Workers Strike Against Vile Conditions

By Powell Bleicher

(*Special To The Militant*)

MORRISVILLE, Pa., July 26—The hot sun beats down on the cracked roads that lead to the Starkey Farms, just four miles from the quiet town of Morrisville, Pa. Out on these hard dry roads stand pickets. Walking slowly, resolutely, their skins and spirits as hard and firm as the roads they walk.

They are fighting the dynasty of the Starkey family. These are the things they are fighting for: A living wage, sanitary living conditions, pure drinking water, and abolition of child labor.

These people have been beaten, shot at, terrorized, hounded by the police, scabs and company strong-arm men hired by Starkey. Yet they are there under the hot sun, protected only by flimsy tents made of their old clothes and blankets.

At night they move away to grey weather-beaten shacks, to a meager meal, if any. I put my arm through the roof of one of these houses, and they say when it rains, you're better off outside.

CHILDREN TOIL

Winter and summer these people stay there, freezing or sweating in the fields for 45 cents an hour, and if you're lucky 50. Women and children work too, from 7 years to 60, there's no difference, only in the pay. The children get 25 cents an hour. They work from sun-up to sun-down. Sometimes they don't work at all; then they go hungry.

They can't leave — Starkey owns the stores, the houses, the land, everything. You work a week, and get paid for three days, there's always some mistake in the bookkeeping. You have no mattress? Starkey gives you one, all you have to do is to work three weeks for nothing. Then you're in debt, so you keep working to pay back the Starkey store.

When things are going strong, there are about 150 people living in three tinder-box barns, eight and nine to a room. There is no bath, no shower, no way to get clean; there used to be two water pumps, now there is only one. This has been condemned as unfit for human use. Still you have got to wet your dry throat, and live, 150 people have two outhouses that haven't been cleaned in six years.

Yet Starkey drives a new car, has a palatial home, farms and canneries from Del Ray, Florida to the Pocono Mountains in Pennsylvania, tremendous enterprises, the Del Ray Brand, Farmed Rite Brand, and Starkey Brand Products. A vast network of profit and exploitation, based on slave-labor methods of degradation and terror.

TAKE NO MORE

These people could take no more. On May 26 Local 56 of the AFL Meat and Cannery Workers, which had organized these workers, called a strike. It was like a tremendous wave of resentment breaking loose.

Starkey's terror began immediately — shootings, cross burnings, bricks wrapped in terror-notes thrown through windows. But these workers stood their ground.

On July 2 truckloads of scabs and company thugs protected by the State Police poured in and attacked the unarmed picket line. Three pickets were severely beaten, and had to be treated. A half ton truck belonging to John Mobbs was overturned and smashed, the plates which the pickets were to have had their dinner from were destroyed. Phonograph records of the union were smashed.

This armed band of scabs and thugs was led by Reverend Welles of Philadelphia, whose congregation was the most vicious in attacking the pickets. Rev. Welles, who was armed with a shotgun, attacked and ran after an unarmed picket. Truck after truck poured in, and the state police prevented the pickets from fraternizing with the drivers in an effort to win them over. These people have no illusions about whose side the law is on.

The union procured warrants for the arrest of Welles and four others on the grounds of attemped homicide. At the trial in Yardley, Pa. on July 10, one of the five was held on $300 bail and the rest including Reverend Welles were released on lack of evidence.

DETERMINED TO WIN

Local 56 led the campaign and organized the strike, but the magnificent spirit, the rock-like determination of these people is the driving force which will lead them on. White and black workers are here, arm in arm, hand in hand, fighting and working for their common good, fighting their common enemy. I talked a long time to these people, I know them now, and I think that their spirit can best be told by the slow sure statement made by John Mobbs:

"We are small, we have no money, we need help. But our fight is part of the workers' fight for better living. I think we should stop these scabs. We tried everything, lawyers and the rest of the phonies, now I guess we got to get together and force them out of here ourselves. You know, we all stay up all night together, guarding our homes against their rockings and burnings; I guess we ought to stay together comes daytime and give them hell."

HARLEM READERS

Complaints have reached us that many of our Harlem subscribers are not getting **The Militant** every week.

of **The Militant,** please let us know. If your friend is not getting his copy of the paper, ask him to notify us. We will check each complaint.

Behind Cannery Strike

At Morrisville, Pa., the Starkey farms produce big profits for the food profiteers. But the workers get 45 cents an hour; 50 families have to live in this barn; and the outdoor pump is their sole water supply. Organized now into the AFL Meat and Cannery Workers Union, they are striking for higher wages and decent conditions.

—Federated Pictures

FOUR NEGRO SHARECROPPERS ARE MURDERED IN GEORGIA

(*Continued from Page 1*)

what you're supposed to do." Four members of the mob dragged the women out of the car. Their bodies revealed that each had an arm broken in the assault. The faces of the four victims and parts of their bodies were blasted by the volley of shots.

PLENTY OF CLUES

There are plenty of clues as to the identity of the murderers, particularly of their leader. But everyone is frightened of the lynch gang. They say: "I don't know anything, but if I did, I sure wouldn't tell. My life wouldn't be worth a plugged nickel." They dare not talk, even for the $10,000 rewards demonstratively offered by Governor Ellis Arnall.

In Washington, Attorney General Clark of the U. S Department of Justice is dodging behind Civil Rights statutes. But J. J. Gautier of Macon and another U. S. attorney for the middle Georgia district, visiting Walton County right after the hideous crime, affably chatted with the Sheriff for about an hour. They said they didn't think there had been a violation of any Federal law. They didn't think the Civil Rights statute would apply.

Thus does Wall Street's government uphold the Lynch Law of its Southern Bourbon supporters.

Wages, Prices And Profits

The Working Class Method In Economics

By Warren Creel

We have looked at facts which shows that the workers are producing more goods but they are not getting more wages. Between the two world wars production per worker doubled but real wages did not go up.

During World War II productivity kept on growing. The U. S. Department of Commerce reports that American industry has gained in efficiency since 1940 so that today it is able to produce the same amount of goods as in 1940 with eight million fewer workers. They say that adding those eight million to the unemployed it had then would make a total of 19 million unemployed at the 1940 level of output (**Markets After the War,** page 3).

The margin between labor's output and labor's wages keeps on increasing.

The difference between what the worker produces and what the worker gets is called "surplus value" in Marxist economics, which is the economic science of the world working class movement. Marxist economics uses methods which are different from ordinary capitalist economics, such as we read in the newspapers.

The economic theories of the capitalist class stem from the mental habits of the capitalists, and the middle class followers of the capitalists. It comes natural to them to think about the things they deal with. That is, they think first in terms of money and prices, and interest rates and profit margins and sales, etc. So they try to build their economic theories around these problems.

Workers are producers, so they tend toward different mental habits. They tend to think first in terms of production, in terms of the amount of useful goods available. They look to the supply of useful workers, and the total amount of useful work done. They regard economics as a problem of fitting together the various types of useful labor, so that the farmer, the miner, the weaver and all the rest can supply one another with the needed goods.

These two methods lead in entirely different directions. One leads to right answers and the other to wrong answers. Workers, who start by looking at production, start in the right place.

It is a fact that the controlling factor in economics is ful labor done and the amount of useful goods produced.

The problems of the capitalists (such as money and prices, profit margins and so on) are derivative matters, controlled by production. In truth, they are, in the final analysis, only flickering and distorted reflections of production. A method that starts with these reflections cannot interpret even the reflections themselves, let alone show where they really come from.

Thus, even to understand prices and profit margins, we must use the worker's method. We must begin with the amount of useful labor done and the amount of useful goods produced.

Starting with productive labor is the method of Karl Marx. For any item produced, or for any quantity of production, Marxian economics begins by estimating the amount of useful productive labor that it represents. The given article's rating in human labor is called its "value," or "labor value." The money price, which is a derivative factor, is called "exchange-value."

A capitalist economist sees all the goods of the world with **price-tags** on them, representing money-prices, or exchange-values. That is enough for him, and he looks for no more. A Marxist, on the other hand, sees all the goods of the world with **value-tags** on them, standing for the amounts of useful human labor they represent. The Marxist sees money-prices or exchange-values also, but he understands that they are actually reflections of productive labor, generally distorted reflections.

The national production, we have been talking about in this series, is the output of all the productive labor. That's the total value. We have seen that the employers pocket a part of this total, called surplus-value, and that their part is increasing.

Does the employer show on his books all of "his share" as profit? What does the employer do with his increasing amount of surplus value?

He can do three things with it:

1. He can pay himself bigger open profits.
2. He can pay himself bigger concealed profits.
3. He can increase wasteful methods of competition.

All three operations are generally employed. Using Marx's method, we intend to trace what happens to surplus-value in its course through the economic system. We will find that this supplies the answers we are seeking on wages and prices. The general lines of our discussion are taken from two pamphlets: One is Marx's **Value, Price and Profit,** dealing with wages and prices; the other is the programmatic pamphlet of the Fourth International, **The Death Agony of Capitalism.**

Next week: The Anarchy that Controls Capitalism.

Subscribe To

"Fourth International"

Trotskyist Theoretical Magazine

How The GPU Tried To Discredit The Dewey Commission Of Inquiry

By Joseph Hansen

(Tenth in a series on the Moscow Trials and their significance.)

Leon Trotsky's reply to the charges levelled against him in the Moscow Trials took place in Coyoacan, a suburb of Mexico City. The venerable John Dewey, world-famous philosopher and educator, headed the Preliminary Commission of Inquiry. Seated with him on the Commission were Otto Ruehle, one of Karl Liebknecht's comrades; Benjamin Stolberg, noted journalist; Suzanne LaFollette, well-known liberal, and Carleton Beals, author and former socialist. A court reporter took down the proceedings word for word. Newspaper reporters crowded the hearings together with representatives of Mexican trade unions.

JOHN DEWEY
Chairman of Commission of Inquiry

The advanced workers centered their attention on the hearings. Obviously this was a serious Commission of Inquiry. Here the element of a frame-up was excluded. Everyone was free to say what he wanted; to ask any questions he wished. The Commission had even publicly invited the Stalinists to participate.

AIR OF SUSPENSE

An element of suspense charged the hearings in the blue-walled house of the Mexican mural painter, Diego Rivera. Although the Stalinists had refused to send an official representative, it was well-known they had put great pressure on the Commission, trying to blow it up. Failing in this, might it not turn out that the Stalinists had succeeded in getting a stooge or two on the Commission? What would happen in that case?

Leon Trotsky had already openly staked his life in a challenge to the Kremlin to institute extradition proceedings. The Kremlin had remained silent, fearing to give Lenin's comrade-in-arms an opportunity to present his case before a public court.

Now Trotsky placed himself at the disposal of the Commission so that this impartial body could rule on his guilt or innocence. From April 10 to April 17, 1937, he submitted to the most searching questioning and probing by the Commission. The questions fired at him ranged from the most general subjects such as the history of the Bolshevik movement and biographies of the defendants in the Moscow frame-ups, right down to Trotsky's personal whereabouts on specific dates. By far the greatest number of questions dealt with the accusations levelled in Moscow against Trotsky.

Within a very short time, it became evident that the Stalinists had succeeded in getting an individual to act as a stooge for them on the Commission. Afraid to send an avowed representative, they chose this method of trying to discredit the investigation.

Carleton Beals began to shift his questions away from the Moscow acusations. He insinuated that Leon Trotsky, in the early days of the Communist International, had sent an emissary to help organize the Communist Party of Mexico. The purpose of this insinuation was only too clear. Beals wanted to compromise Trotsky in the eyes of the Mexican government which had granted asylum to the great Bolshevik.

Beals claimed special sources of information which could not be put in the record.

"I can only give the advice to the Commissioner," said Trotsky, "to say to his informant that he is a liar." Trotsky told how all the Bolsheviks in those days had considered the October 1917 Revolution as one link in a chain of revolutions that would eventually replace world capitalism with a socialist society free from depressions, war and reaction. He himself, however, could scarcely have sent an emissary to Mexico, since as head of the Red Army, defending the Soviet Union against the Allied powers, "I forgot all about world geography except the geography of the front."

John F. Finerty, famous in the defense of Sacco-Vanzetti and Tom Mooney, acted as legal counsel for the Commission. He "advised the sub-commission" that questions such as Beals had asked "were highly improper, would be sufficient cause for mistrial in any ordinary court, and that he could not continue as counsel if they were to be permitted in future."

ANSWERS BEALS

According to the report signed by John Dewey and the others, "Mr. Beals then angrily declared that either he or Mr. Finerty must leave the sub-commission." Then, although he had declared that he still had "hundreds more questions," Beals resigned. This was the only aspect of the investigation to which the Stalinist press gave full publicity.

The effect of his resignation was only to make the Stalinists appear more cowardly and despicable. Why were the Stalinists so fearful of asking Trotsky questions? Why were they so afraid of an impartial hearing into the charges made by Stalin against Trotsky?

DEVASTATING REPLY

Point by point the Commission took up these charges and cross-examined Trotsky. The revolutionary exile submitted document after document covering all his movements on the days in question. Each of these proofs was a devastating refutation of the lies in the frame-up Trials. But the organizer of the Red Army and the co-founder with Lenin of the first workers' state in history did not content himself with simply clearing his own name. He went much further. He took on the seemingly impossible task of **proving** that the trials in Moscow were frame-ups. The verbatim record of Trotsky's depositions, as the brilliant Marxist unravelled the GPU frame-ups, reads better than any detective thriller.

"Finally in a summary that is undoubtedly one of the great defense speeches in world history, Trotsky reduced Stalin's frame-ups to a heap of rubble.

"As we have proved before the Commission," said Trotsky, "seven trials took place in the USSR, with the Kirov assassination as their starting point: (a) the trial of Nikolayev et al, December 28-29th, 1934; (b) the trial of Zinoviev-Kamenev, January 15-16th, 1935; (c) the trial of Medved et al, January 23rd, 1935; (d) the trial of Kamenev et al, July 1935; (e) the trial of Zinoviev-Kamenev, August, 1936; (f) the Novosibirsk trial, November 19-22nd, 1936; (g) the trial of Pyatakov-Radek, January 23-30th, 1937.

"These trials are seven variations played on one and the same theme. Among the different variations there is almost no discernible connection. Each contradicts the others in fundamentals and details. In each trial, different persons organize the assassination of Kirov, by different means and for different political objectives. The mere comparison of the official Soviet documents is ample proof that at least six of these seven trials must be frame-ups. In fact, all seven are frame-ups."

Trotsky explained: "As far back as 1926, the Stalin clique tried to charge various oppositional groups with 'anti-Soviet' propaganda, connections with White Guards, capitalist tendencies, espionage, terrorist aims, and, finally, the preparation of armed insurrection. All these attempts, which are akin to rough drafts, have left their traces in official decrees, in newspaper articles, in documents of the Opposition.

"If we were to arrange chronologically these rough drafts of and experiments in frame-up, we would obtain something in the nature of a **geometric progression of false accusations**, whose end terms are the indictments in the last trials. Thus we uncover the 'law of frame-ups' and the mystery of the alleged Trotskyite conspiracy vanishes into thin air."

CARLO TRESCA
Member of Commission of Inquiry

MYSTERY VANISHES

Trotsky analyzed the "confessions" over which many honest people had puzzled: "It is the same with the improbable declarations of the defendants, which at first sight contradict all the laws of human psychology. **Ritualistic recantations on the part of Oppositionists** date back to 1924, and especially the end of 1927. If we collate the texts of these recantations on the basis of the leading Soviet press — often consecutive recantations made by the self-same individuals — we obtain a second geometric progression, the end terms of which are the nightmarish confessions of Zinoviev, Kamenev, Pyatakov, Radek and others at the judicial trials. A political and psychological analysis of this accessible and unimpeachable material wholly and conclusively reveals the inquisitorial mechanics of the recantations."

TROTSKY'S WARNINGS

Trotsky then pointed to a third type of evidence that alone is enough to expose the Moscow Trials: "To the mathematical series of frame-ups and the mathematical series of recantations, there corresponds a **third mathematical series — that of warnings and predictions.**" Far from "plotting" in the dark, Trotsky and his closest co-thinkers had "followed attentively the intrigues and provocations of the GPU, and in advance, on the basis of particular facts and symptoms, warned time and again, in letters as well as in the press, against Stalin's provocative plans and against amalgams in preparation. The very expression, 'Stalinist amalgam,' was given currency by us almost eight years before the Kirov assassination and the spectacular trials which followed it.

"The relevant documentary proofs have been placed at the disposal of the Commission of Inquiry. They show with absolute incontestability that what is involved is not an underground Trotskyite conspiracy first unearthed in some startling manner in 1936, but a systematic conspiracy of the GPU against the Opposition, with the aim of imputing to it sabotage, espionage, assassinations and the preparation of insurrections."

(To be continued)

STALINISTS FIND NUREMBERG CREEPS AT "SNAIL'S PACE"

The rank and file of the Communist (Stalinist) Party are disappointed with the trial of the Nazis at Nuremberg. They had expected the Stalinist prosecution would produce evidence substantiating the charge in the Moscow trials that Leon Trotsky had plotted with the Nazis against the Soviet Union. Rudolph Hess, named as contact man between Hitler and Trotsky, was in the dock.

What the rank and file Stalinists expected can be judged from a leaflet they distributed at a lecture of John G. Wright in St. Louis on December 14. This leaflet declared that "documents discovered in Berlin and produced at Nuremberg trial of Nazi high criminals" show that the "Trotskyites" organized a "Nazi fifth column in the Soviet Union."

The trial is now entering its ninth month. Yet not a single document of this nature has been produced. In fact the Stalinist prosecution has not breathed a word about the charges levelled in the Moscow trials.

Perhaps this explains why the July 16 **Daily Worker** complains in an editorial that the Nuremberg "trial creeps forward at a snail's pace." Nine months is a long time to keep answering questions of the rank and file about the failure of the Stalinist prosecution to even mention the Moscow trials at Nuremberg!

Trotskyist Press Predicted Frameups

A typical prediction from the files of **The New International** (now **Fourth International**) shows how the Trotskyists warned the workers about the Moscow frame-up trials long before they were held.

In the August 1935 issue, John G. Wright declared that the Kremlin was "preparing to go one crime further: to frame up Trotsky and his co-thinkers as assassins, as terrorists whose aim is to murder Stalin. The GPU was involved in the assassination of Kirov. But this attempt to link Trotsky with the terrorists through a provocateur failed. Is there another, a bigger and better frame-up in preparation? There is."

Start Defense Movement In Choice Case

BAYONNE, N. J., July 27. — The Bayonne Branch of the NAACP held a mass meeting to protest "Alabama" justice in Bayonne, Wednesday night. The meeting, at Friendship Baptist Church, was attended by over 200 Negro and white people.

Dr. D. Morris, president of the local NAACP, said that "The issue involved in the NAACP fight for the defense of Mike Choice, the 19-year old Negro lad who was railroaded to a 90 day sentence on a phony 'intention to rape' a young white girl, is not one that involves only this boy. This is a fight for all minority peoples."

Rev. C. H. S. Watkins, vice-president of the local, declared, "The NAACP is going to fight this case through to the finish. We have the support of the state and national organization."

Arlene Phillips, Socialist Workers Party candidate for Congress from the 13th District, pledged complete support of the SWP to the defense of Mike Choice. The Bayonne Branch of the Socialist Workers Party had initiated the fight along with the NAACP, and had already given it wide publicity.

Mrs. Phillips stated that "Terrorists acts of this nature generally start with an individual in a particular minority and can spread to the proportions of a Columbia, Tennessee affair if they are not nipped in the bud. The best answer to the police pressure tactics is this well-attended meeting tonight. We will make Mike Choice the living answer to those who think that minorities of any type—of race, creed, color or political belief—have not the right to defend themselves through civil, economic or political means."

A joint committee of all organizations interested in the case was established to work with the NAACP in mapping out further activities.

This case has already aroused widespread interest among liberal, labor and progressive organizations in this locality, which have become aroused at the thought that "Southern Justice" is finding its way in New Jersey.

To Our Readers

The column "The Negro Struggle" which appears in this space each week, will be resumed on Charles Jackson's return from his vacation.

Condemn Police Role In Terror Against Negroes

By Robert L. Birchman

(Special to The Militant)

CHICAGO, July 24. — The Conference to Combat Terrorism Against Minorities met tonight to condemn official law enforcement agencies for their failure to take any action against the mounting wave of Jim-Crow terror. It demanded the abolition of "restrictive covenants," which force the Negro people into black ghettos.

The Conference, called by the NAACP, was attended by 106 delegates and about 200 observers from over 50 labor, Negro and progressive organizations. It voted to establish an Independent Public Investigating Committee to uncover all the circumstances surrounding the wave of terrorism against Negroes here over the past two and a half years.

The Conference also voted to send a mass delegation to Mayor Kelly on August 5 to demand a public statement from him guaranteeing the right of Negro people to live anywhere in the city free from attack by lynch gangs.

Among the trade union delegates, there were represented 7 locals of the CIO United Automobile Workers; two locals of CIO United Transport Service Employees; CIO United Packinghouse Workers, Local 23; CIO Bakery and Confectionery Workers, Local 15; CIO Chicago Industrial Union Council; Joint Board, AFL-International Ladies' Garment Workers Union and the National Alliance of Postal Employees.

Organizations represented at the Conference were the Socialist Workers Party; Chicago and Indiana Harbor branches of the NAACP; NAACP Youth Council; Committee on Racial Equality; American Civil Liberties Union; Chicago Council Against Racial and Religious Discrimination; six chapters of the American Veterans Committee; Back of the Yards Council; Du Sable Lodge 751; International Workers Order; Chicago Civil Liberties Committee; Chicago Urban League; Workers Part; Revolutionary Workers League; and a number of church and liberal organizations.

The conference exposed the shameful do-nothing record of the police department in the wave of terrorism against the Negro people. In the past 27 months there were 59 attacks on the homes or business places of Negroes who moved into the areas outside the "black ghetto."

These attacks included 29 arson bombings, 22 cases of stoning and breaking of windows, three shootings, two stench bombings and three of house wrecking. Three people have been killed, innumerable injuries and an unknown amount of property damage suffered. Two homes were completely destroyed.

In the entire 59 cases, only four terrorists were apprehended and not one convicted. Seven cases of vandalism occurred while the police were on guard. Police were assigned to guard homes in 26 cases only after one or more terrorist acts had been committed.

The Independent Investigating Committee established by the Conference will take the following measures:

Establish the reasons for the criminal negligence of the police and other law enforcement agencies; Establish the guilt of all individuals and organizations responsible for terrorist acts; Present the facts to the public and demand the punishment of all those responsible for these terrorist actions. The Conference endorsed the building of Defense Guards to protect the Negro people from attack.

The Conference endorsed the Grace Hardy Fund, established to provide Mrs. Hardy with financial assistance to maintain her home, and pledged its aid in continuing to raise the necessary funds.

Check Presented To Mrs. Grace Hardy

(Special to The Militant)

A check for $318.50 was presented by M. J. Meyer, attorney for the Steering Committee of the Conference to Combat Terrorism Against Minorities, to the attorney in charge of legal affairs for Mrs. Grace Hardy. The check pays in full the mortgage payments on Mrs. Hardy's home for the months of May, June and July. This definitely forestalls any attempt to institute closure proceedings against the house and maintains the right of Negroes to live in the neighborhood.

Mrs. Hardy's home was bombed on the night of May 2. Mrs. Hardy is still in the hospital suffering from the third degree burns she received. She is a postal clerk, widow of a World War I veteran, with two teen-age sons. As a result of her injuries she was unable to work and thus unable to meet the payments on the house.

The Socialist Workers Party with the support of the NAACP persuaded Mrs. Hardy not to sell the house, and promised her financial aid. The total raised to date for the Grace Hardy fund, from organizations and individuals, is now $383.59.

Los Angeles CIO Unions Win Victories For Negro Workers

By Lois Saunders

(Special to The Militant)

LOS ANGELES, July 21. — Two recent victories by Negro workers, won with the aid of powerful CIO unions in this area, confirm the fact that colored workers are justified in looking to the unions for aid in their struggle for economic equality. The unions are determined that the gains made by the Negroes in industry during the war years are not to be wiped out.

The South Gate plant of General Motors, as a direct result of vigorous and sustained pressure from the CIO United Automobile Workers, finally was forced to reverse its lily-white hiring policy. Early this month it employed 18 Negroes, distributing them throughout the plant in the same manner as it does white workers. It is the first time this GM plant has ever hired Negroes on production.

In the second incident, the San Pedro local of the CIO International Longshore and Warehouse Workers Union granted Negroes the secure and preferred "longshore" rating. Previously they were confined to the less desirable "warehouse" category.

GM PLANT NOTORIOUS

The GM plant here has long been notorious as one of the most stubborn upholders of discrimination in hiring. The local UAW-CIO of this plant, together with the district office of the UAW, after numerous runarounds, placed the matter before UAW President Walter G. Reuther during his recent visit here.

Reuther thereupon wrote to H. W. Anderson, vice-president in charge of personnel of all GM plants, in Detroit, branding the South Gate plant's excuses for not hiring Negroes as subterfuges. He declared that unless discriminatory policy were reversed, the union would refer the matter to outside agencies.

A few days later the South Gate plant called in 10 Negroes for physical examinations. The hiring of the 18 followed within the week.

In the San Pedro case, the wage differential between longshore and warehouse work was eliminated following recent wage negotiations. But a longshoreman has greater union security and more opportunities for work. There were very few Negroes on the waterfront here prior to the war, but large numbers were taken in during the war years. With the exception of 17, none of these were given longshore ratings.

At the regular union meeting last week, despite considerable opposition, a standing vote by an overwhelming majority passed the motion to grant the preferred status.

FRAMEUP OF NEGRO YOUTH PROTESTED BY BAYONNE SWP

BAYONNE, N. J., July 26. — Representatives and friends of labor and Negro organizations filled the new Bayonne Socialist Workers Party headquarters at 62 W. 23 St. last Sunday to protest the Jim Crow arrest and persecution of Mike Choice, a Negro lad of 19. Speakers from the IUMSWA Local 16, ILGWU Local 160, the AVC and the NAACP joined with Arlene Phillips, SWP candidate for Congress, in condemning the flagrant frameup.

Mrs. Phillips introduced the facts of the case which are as follows: Mike Choice, 19, had just come to this city from Alabama to stay with his aunt, Mrs. Anna May Davis of 33 West 23 Street.

HELD INCOMMUNICADO

Attempting to find his way to the local carnival, he asked a white girl of 13 the directions. She didn't know where it was and told him so. He politely thanked her and added in typical Southern style, "See you some other night, hear!" (not here). This undoubtedly prejudiced and hysterical girl ran to the cops crying that Mike Choice had threatened to accost her in the future.

The cops picked up Mike at the carnival and brought him into the local jail house. There he was held incomunicado. He was not permitted to get in touch with a lawyer or his family. He was threatened with a beating. He was then given a confession to sign. Despite the fact that he cannot read or write, he signed a statement that he intended to rape the girl.

After he was convicted, his family was permitted to hear him sentenced to 90 days in jail! They had found out about his jailing by reading about it in the newspapers! The police didn't think it necessary to notify Mike's family so they might arrange to have counsel for him and defense witnesses and everything necessary to prepare a defense in a legal trial. "Read about it in the newspapers" they said.

Upon learning of this case, the Bayonne Branch of the SWP immediately went to work in the defense of Mike Choice. The NAACP was brought into the case and all labor and liberal organizations were called upon for action.

The SWP meeting started the ball rolling for the formation of a broad defense committee to defend the civil rights of Negroes and all other minorities.

Today, Mike Choice is not alone. The struggle will continue until he is released and Jim Crow "justice" is destroyed in Bayonne courts.

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Aug. 23—Issues in California Election
466 East Vernon

Come and meet other 'Militant' Readers At these Local Activities of

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ALLENTOWN - BETHLEHEM — Open meeting every Thursday, 8 p.m., at **Militant Labor Forum**, S. E. corner Front and Hamilton Streets, Allentown.
Public Forums—First Sunday each month, 8:15 p.m.

BALTIMORE—For information write Box 1583, **Baltimore 3**, Md. Monthly forums to be announced.

BAYONNE—SWP headquarters, 62 W. 23rd St. Open house 2nd and 4th Saturdays.

BOSTON—Office at 30 Stuart St. Open Saturdays from noon until 5 p.m.; Wednesday and Fridays, 7:30 to 9:30 p.m.

BUFFALO — Open every afternoon except Sunday. Militant Forum, 629 Main St., 2nd floor.

CHICAGO — Visit SWP, 777 W. Adams (corner Halsted). Open 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily, except Sunday. Tel. Dearborn 4767. Library, bookstore.
Sat. night, open house.

CLEVELAND — Militant Forum every Friday, 8:30 p.m. at Peck's Hall 1446 E. 82nd St. (off Wade Pk.)

CONNECTICUT — Write to the Militant, P.O. Box 841, New Haven.

DETROIT — Open house every Saturday, 8 p.m. at 6108 Linwood. Office open daily 12 to 5. Phone Tyler 7-6267.

FLINT—SWP meets every Friday, 8 p.m. at YWCA, 1st and Harrison.

LOS ANGELES—Visit Militant Publishing Assn., 316½ W. Pico Blvd. Open daily, 12 noon to 5 p.m. Phone Richmond 4644.
Every Friday, 8 p.m.—Militant Workers Forum, 466 E. Vernon.

SAN PEDRO, Militant Publishing Assn., 1008 S. Pacific, Room 214.

MILWAUKEE — Visit the Milwaukee SWP branch, 424 E. Wells St., evenings from 7:30.
Sat. night—Open house.

MINNEAPOLIS—Visit the Labor Book Store, 10 South 4th St., open 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily.

NEWARK—Visit SWP headquarters, 423 Springfield Ave. Phone BIgelow 3-2574. Library and reading room open week nights, 7-10 p.m.
Friday night forum, 8:30.

NEW YORK—CITY HQ., 116 University Place, GR. 5-8149. Sat., 4:30 p.m., Tues., 7:30, rehearsal of Militant chorus.
HARLEM: 103 W. 110 St., Rm. 23. MO! 2-1866.
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Reading room open Mon. to Fri., 7 to 10 p.m.
Current events discussion, Fridays at 8.
BROOKLYN: 635 Fulton St., Phone ST. 3-7433.
Mon. Class — "Program of SWP," 7 p.m.
CHELSEA: 130 W. 23 St., phone CH 2-9434.

OAKLAND, Cal.—Meetings Wednesday, Odd Fellows Temple, 410 - 11th St. For information write to P.O. Box 1351

PHILADELPHIA — SWP Headquarters, 1303-05 W. Girard Ave., 2nd floor. Open daily. Friday forum, 8 p.m. Phone Stevenson 5820.

PITTSBURGH—Militant Reading Room, 141 S. Highland, Room 21 (corner Highland and Central Ave.), E. Liberty. Phone, EM. 4899. Open Wednesday, 7 to 10 p.m., Sunday 3 to 9 p.m.

PORTLAND, Ore. — Visit the SWP headquarters, 134 S. W. Washington, 3rd Floor. Tel ATwater 3992. Open 1 to 4 p.m., daily except Sunday, and 6 to 8, Tuesday, Friday.
Fridays, 8 p.m., Open House and Round Table Discussions.

SAN DIEGO—P. O. Box 857.

SAN FRANCISCO — Visit the San Francisco School of Social Science, 305 Grant Ave., corner of Grant and Sutter, 4th floor; open from 12 noon to 4:30 p.m., daily except Sunday. Phone EXbrook 1926.

SEATTLE—Visit our Headquarters, 1919½ Second Ave. Open Saturdays 12 to 5, Sunday and Wednesday, 7:30 to 10.
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ST. LOUIS—Visit our Headquarters, 1023 N. Grand Blvd., Rm. 312, open Monday, Wednesday, Friday, 7:30 to 9 p.m. Forums every Thursday, 8:30 p.m. Phone Jefferson 3642.

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YOUNGSTOWN — Youngstown School of Social Science, 225 N. Phelps St., open to public Tuesday and Saturday afternoon from 2 to 5; also 7:30 to 9:30, Monday to Thursday.

Diary Of A Steel Worker

The Fate Of Slim's New Pants

By Theodore Kovalesky

When I walked into the shanty after cast up on No. 4 yesterday, the first thing I noticed was the smoky odor of burning cloth. The second thing that came to my attention was the wonderful stream of curses pouring out of Slim's mouth. There wasn't a word that he left out; in fact, I think he improvised a lot of new ones. Finally lapsing into ordinary English, he informed me that when the fifth iron gate had blown up, he had caught a good spattering of the molten iron on the seat of his new work pants, as a result of which there was now no seat in the pants.

"That's all right," Jimmy said helpfully. "You can eat your supper standing up."

Slim took the advice in cold contempt and didn't answer. Then, to nobody in particular he grumbled, "Prices sky-high and that damn iron has to burn up my pants the first damn time I wear them!"

Jimmy was in a helpful mood. Not at all discouraged by the attitude Slim took toward his last bit of advice, he came forward cheerfully with some more . . . in fact a little too cheerfully. "Slim," he said with a kindly smile on his face, "your troubles are all over. I am glad to tell you that we will have all the prices down in a week's time. Then you can buy anything you like and have plenty of money left over."

"Yeah?" Slim muttered suspiciously. "How?"

"Easy. We go on a buyers' strike. We cut out buying everything we don't need, and when the stores can't sell anything, then the prices take a dive, and there's no more inflation."

"That's very good," Slim said heavily. "Oh, that's fine! But tell me one thing." His voice rose passionately. "WHAT THE HELL DO I BUY NOW THAT I DON'T NEED TO?"

"Now take it easy, son," Jimmy said soothingly. "What do you do with all your money, anyhow?"

"Oh, I just throw it away," Slim answered with bitter scorn. "I buy food and clothes, and I pay rent. Me and the wife and kids kind of like to eat sometimes and wear clothing when we go out. And then, we kind of got used to living in a house, and that costs money for rent. Mayb we ought to cut out these things, huh?"

"Slim," said Jimmy again with a beautiful Christian smile spreading over his face, "your troubles are all over. Just quit eating and wearing clothes. Remember how the Bible says, 'Look at the lilies of the field. They toil not, neither do they spin, but Solomon in all his glory didn't look half so sharp,' or something like that."

"It's gonna be hard working barefoot in those red-hot runners," Tom murmured.

Jimmy turned toward him reassuringly. "You'll get callouses."

"Well, look, Jimmy, "I protested mildly. "Don't you think we'll get sort of hungry on this buyers' strike?"

But Jimmy's enthusiasm could not be quenched. 'It'll only be a week or two," he beamed at me, "a month or two at the most. Who ever got hungry just going without eating for a month or two?"

I never knew anybody who went two months without food, so I couldn't answer Jimmy.

'Well," I said at last, admitting defeat, "The way I had it figured, the best thing we could do was get a clause in our contract calling for a sliding scale of wages, so that every time prices went up, wages would go up just as much. But the way Jimmy explains it, I guess I've been wrong all along."

"Don't feel too bad about it," he comforted me. "You just don't read the papers. If you did, you'd be as smart as I am."

But Slim was somehow untouched by the wisdom Jimmy had imparted to us. Slouching sideways on the end of the bench, he muttered grumpily, "Prices sky-high, and that damn iron has to burn up my damn pants first damn time I wear them!"

Arms Fraud Inquiry Hints At New Scandals Far Worse Than Garrson-May Profits Deal

Exposure of frauds by which the Garsson arms combine grew from nothing to a network of firms obtaining over $78,000,000 in war contracts with the aid of Representative May, is just a peep under the tent, said Senator Owen Brewster on July 24. "This has only given us a glimpse of the corruption that went on."

Thus the Senate Defense Investigating Committee is compelled to admit what **The Militant** has previously contended: that the Garsson case is petty thievery compared to the looting done by the huge monopolies during the course of the war.

Substantiating this, Joseph A. Loftus reported to the **N. Y. Times** on July 27 that "the alleged fraud involved is matched many times in the records of the War Frauds Section of the Department of Justice." But "in most of the cases prosecution was not undertaken for various reasons."

REAL REASON

Loftus, of course, does not give the most important reason: that collusion between manufacturers, Congressmen and the Army brass was not the exception but the rule. A real investigation would expose the insatiable greed of corporations like General Motors, U. S. Steel, and other financial giants. It would compromise the highest government officials and the top military caste.

The probe into the Illinois combine's affairs was begun, not to reveal these real frauds, but to distract attention from the biggest crooks. The scandalous profiteering out of World War II had already become public knowledge. Mead, as chairman of the committee, wants to cover-up the huge corporations which plundered billions from the public treasury, while using the Illinois case as campaign material for elections.

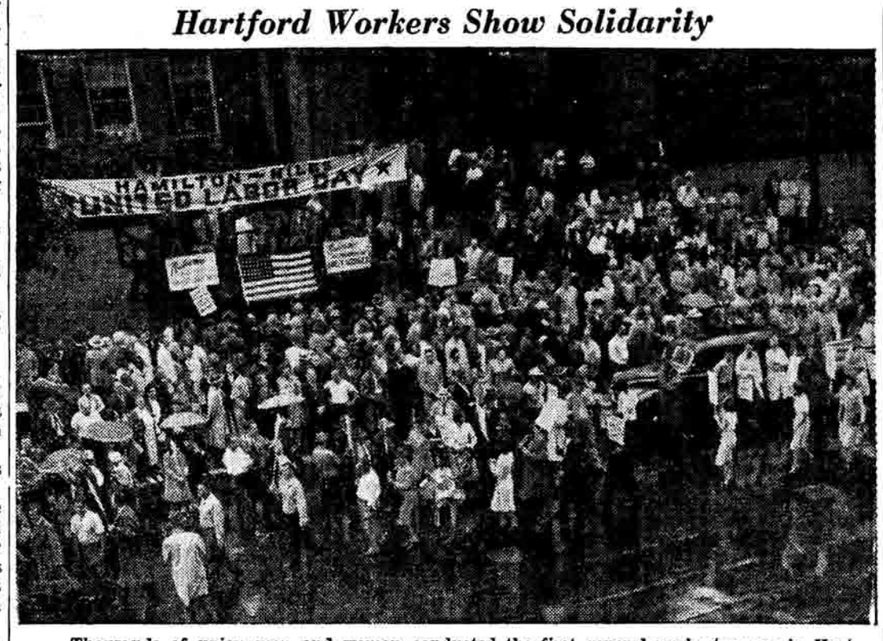
But the Garsson case, despite Mead's intentions, reveals the pattern followed by all the profiteers. It has shown how Representative May, head of the powerful House Military Affairs Committee, used his office to secure contracts for the firm, and as Kentucky agent for one of its enterprises, pocketed thousands of dollars for lumber never delivered.

It has shown how May secured the intervention of Secretary of War Patterson in releasing the firm's funds, and interceded with General Eisenhower on behalf of a member of the Garsson family brought before a court-martial. It has made clear the close ties between owners of the "paper empire" and brass hats like Maj. Gen. William W. Porter, former chief of Chemical Warfare Service.

And it has cast an embarrassing spotlight on Representative John M. Coffee of Washington, who admits receiving a $2,500 gift from a grateful contractor in 1941.

There is no doubt that other government officials and other manufacturers will be named as grafters and thieves. But the committee will make every effort to protect America's Sixty Ruling Families, for whom the war was the biggest gold-mine in history.

Hartford Workers Show Solidarity



Thousands of union men and women conducted the first general work stoppage in Hartford, Connecticut last week, demonstrating in sympathy with striking fellow-workers. Members of CIO United Electrical, Radio and Machine Workers have been on strike 19 weeks, and International Association of Machinists (unaffiliated) for seven.

—Federated Pictures

Infantile Paralysis Vs. Profits

By Grace Carlson

Poliomyelitis has reached the epidemic stage in Minneapolis. Public health authorities report that in the first 23 days of July, 122 new polio cases occurred. There have been 15 deaths from the disease during July.

Also known as infantile paralysis, polio is the much dreaded crippler of children. In the present Minneapolis epidemic, more than 80 per cent of the victims are under 15 years of age. Frightened parents have been besieging the city health department for advice on how to protect their children from polio infection.

Doctors admit that they do not know just how infantile paralysis is transmitted but they are offering a number of practical precautions to help guard against the continued spread of the disease. They advise parents to keep their children away from crowds; to prevent overheating and over-exertion; to guard against chill after swimming; to see that children's hands are kept clean, particularly at mealtime.

These health tips have been given daily publicity in the Minneapolis papers during the polio epidemic. But much more and much better publicity is being given to the Minneapolis Aquatennial, which violates every one of the health rules that doctors have laid down to safeguard Minneapolis children from infantile paralysis.

An annual event, the Minneapolis Aquatennial is a huge publicity stunt, cooked up by the business men of that city. Swimming contests and various other water sports, parades, baseball tournaments, public dances and music festivals are featured during the ten-day festivities. Children's bands, baseball clubs, and glee clubs are brought to Minneapolis from cities throughout Minnesota to take part in the Aquatennial contests.

Before the Aquatennial opened on July 19, groups of Minneapolis medical men, parents and teachers urged the city official to call it off. The polio outbreak was not yet at an epidemic stage, but the serious danger of bringing large crowds and children together in the Aquatennial events was pointed out to the city authorities. However, Minneapolis business men put their own pressure on the officials of the city, and the Aquatennial went on.

That the crowds brought together by the Aquatennial have spread polio and that still more victims will be claimed in Minneapolis and throughout Minnesota can scarcely be doubted. Minneapolis authorities are pointing with pride to the fact that the city has good facilities for treating polio victims. Dr. Frank Hill, city health commissioner, said recently, "The Elizabeth Kenny institute, the best known institution of its kind in the world, has a full staff of competent, fully trained technicians, equipped to provide the most up-to-date treatment." Sister Elizabeth Kenny, originator of the polio treatment bearing her name, was reported to be flying to Minneapolis to aid in the fight to save the young victims from severe crippling and disfigurement.

But working to prevent polio—that's something else! It can't be done if profits stand in the way!

Dobbs Attacks Capitalist Parties At New York SWP Election Rally

NEW YORK—To introduce its state-wide slate of Trotskyist candidates in the coming November elections, Local New York of the Socialist Workers Party launched its electoral campaign with a rousing Election Rally on July 24 at Webster Manor. Farrell Dobbs, editor of **The Militant**, running for Governor, headed the list of candidates who presented to the enthusiastic audience the program of the only revolutionary workers party.

Marking the historic occasion of its first large-scale entry into an election in which Trotskyist candidates are running in five states, including New York, Dobbs declared: "This represents another great stride forward for the Socialist Workers Party on the road to becoming a mass revolutionary party to lead the workers and poor farmers out of the capitalist blind-alley."

He condemned both the Democratic and Republican parties as political agents of Wall Street, which he said "has thrown American manhood into two imperialist world slaughters for its own profits and plunder." Dobbs is one of the 18 Trotskyist leaders who were imprisoned in 1944 for their opposition to the imperialist war, and who forecast its terrible consequences.

Dobbs condemned the policies of the American Labor Party, the Liberal Party and the Communist (Stalinist) Party. "These labor fakers jumped on the bandwagon of Wall Street's war," he said. "Today they continue to deceive the workers by making rotten deals with Democratic and Republican machine candidates. The time is ripe for the workers to break with all capitalist politicians and form their own independent labor party."

Joseph Hansen, associate editor of **The Militant**, Trotskyist candidate for U. S. Senate, disclosed the corrupt election techniques of the capitalist politicians. They resort to petty, local issues, to slander and mud-slinging, he said, in order to divert public attention from their own criminal responsibility in saddling wars, unemployment, inflation and hunger upon the American masses.

FERGUSON CASE

Robert Larry spoke in the absence of Milton Richardson, candidate for Lieutenant-Governor. He denounced the hypocritical "gang-buster", Governor Dewey, for his fraudulent public "investigation" of the Jim-Crow murder of the Ferguson brothers. "It is an official whitewash of the crime," he charged. "Dewey has no interest in wiping out discrimination; he is interested only in the coming elections."

Sylvia Blecker, former secretary-treasurer and organizer of Local 43, AFL Millinery Union, running for Attorney-General, pointed out the great militancy and courage of women in industry and in the trade union movement.

"They are great fighters on the picket line and play an important part in all strike struggles," she said. "Women are doubly oppressed in capitalist society. They need a real working-class party and leadership to guide them toward emancipation."

WARM RESPONSE

William Kitt, Buffalo SWP Organizer and veteran, Trotskyist candidate for Comptroller, was unable to participate in the Election Rally because of the opening of the campaign in Buffalo.

George Clarke, Organizer of SWP Local New York, received warm response in his appeal to those present to give their aid in the petition drive to put the party and its candidates on the ballot.

Indignant Audience Walks Out On "Whitewash" Of Freeport

NEW YORK, July 27. — The third and last act of the grim farce entitled "public investigation" of the Jim-Crow murder of two Ferguson brothers, staged with fanfare by Governor Dewey and his Republican stooges, was played out on July 23 to a virtually empty courtroom. Almost the entire audience assembled in the Bar Association Building walked out in a body, expressing their indignation at the shameful attempt to whitewash the crime. But the fake hearings continued in the name of "justice" — that is, to build up Dewey for the coming elections.

Six months ago, on February 5, four Negro brothers, three of them veterans, were celebrating their reunion in Freeport, L. I. They were denied a cup of coffee in a public lunchroom in this area which is notorious as a stronghold of discrimination and reaction.

Policeman Romeika called upon the scene by the lunchroom proprietor, lined the protesting brothers against a wall, and shot them down in cold blood. Charles and Alfonso Ferguson were killed. The policeman Romeika is still free, able to commit other atrocities.

As a result of the mass indignation and mounting protests from all over the country, Governor Dewey recently appointed his political stooge, Lawrence S. Greenbaum, to hold public hearings on the case.

HOSTILITY CLEAR

This Republican office-holder arbitrarily decided who would testify and what evidence would be accepted. He prevented the defense counsel from cross-examining the witnesses in order to develop further testimony. From the very beginning the character of the fraudulent investigation became clear. Sharp criticisms and protests were voiced by representatives of labor and progressive organizations attending the hearings.

By the time of the third session, Greenbaum's hostility against anyone speaking in favor of the Ferguson brothers was plain to all, and destroyed his last pretense of acting as a "disinterested" agent.

He cut short the series of statements made by representatives of various organizations, most of whom denounced the fraudulent investigation. He gave the floor to his own legal hack, Sol Gelb, who hamstrung the proceedings with fine legal restrictions.

When the disgusted audience left the courtroom they convened in a meeting at the Hotel Diplomat, about a block away. From this meeting a telegram was sent to Governor Dewey denouncing the entire "investigation" and demanding the superseding of District Attorney Gehrig of Nassau County, in order to reopen the case for a new hearing.

SWP PROPOSAL

At the meeting David Weiss of the Socialist Workers Party stated his complete solidarity with the break with the Dewey hearings. He said the break exposed the hearings as a fraud designed to dupe the Negro as well as white people.

Weiss proposed that genuine public investigation be conducted by the New York State Commission Against Discrimination, which was set up under the Ives-Quinn Act. This Commission, which Dewey deliberately by-passed, is empowered to conduct such an investigation and can obtain the funds with which to finance it.

Weiss proposed that such a Public Committee of Investigation be composed of represenatives from the labor, Negro and veterans organizations. One of its tasks, he pointed out, should be the investigation of the notorious conditions of segregation and discrimination prevailing in Nassau County, which breed Jim-Crow crimes. This proposal met with considerable approval.

DETROIT POLICE SHIELD ARSON GANG IN SWP FIRE

DETROIT, Mich., July 27—Warnings that the Detroit police were trying to cover up the real criminals who set fire to the Socialist Workers Party headquarters here, were made by SWP Organizer Arthur Burch in press releases yesterday and today. (See Page 1 for details on the fire.)

Lt. Roderick Goeriz of the police arson squad was quoted in yesterday's **Detroit Times** as saying, "Our first job is to find out if there is any factionalism in the Socialist Workers Party."

"This," replied Burch, "is an obvious attempt on the part of the police to whitewash the real criminals who fired our headquarters. The purpose of the police in investigating Marxist factions is to direct the attention of the labor movement away from the real culprits.

ANTI-LABOR ACT

"All the signs point to the fact that the firing of the SWP headquarters was carried out by the same anti-labor group that beat up the Briggs Local 212 militant members. There too, the police and the press attempted to shield the criminals by pointing an accusing finger at 'faction fights' inside the labor movement."

Burch expressed the belief that an investigation of the Detroit Police Department would show many members of the force were cooperating with vigilante terrorists in assaults on labor militants, and called for an immediate investigation of the Police Department.

A story in today's **Detroit News** gave added weight to Burch's warning about the role being played by the police. He explained:

"The police accuse the sender of a threatening penny postcard signed 'Spiegler' of being opposed to the 'anti-Communist purpose' of the meeting being held by the SWP. This is an attempt on their part to pin the blame on members of the Communist Party and away from the real fascist perpetrators of this fiendish crime. They further quote 'Spiegler' as saying 'we will arrive at the proper time with a rope.'

REAL MESSAGE

"The last two sentences in 'Spiegler's' postcard actually read as follows: 'The Soviets' greed for world power and their domination of their small neighbors speaks for itself. When the time is ripe, we shall come for you communists with a rope.'

"By omitting the word 'communist' from the text of the postcard and falsifying the entire statement, the police are giving the impression that 'Spiegler' was a communist instead of a violent opponent of communism. The purpose of this obvious fraud is to whitewash the Black Legion friends of the police."

Attack On SWP Is Condemned By Unionists

DETROIT, Mich., July 27—Statements condemning the arson attack on the Socialist Workers Party were made by two well-known unionists during the last two days.

William Jenkins, president of Local 490 of the UAW, stated:

"While I disagree in some ways with the program of the Socialist Workers Party, I am very interested in seeing that the right of free speech and assembly is fully safeguarded. The terrorists who tried to burn down the hall of the Socialist Workers Party were evidently fascist groups that do not believe in freedom of speech. I think that all decent citizens should do everything in their power to see that those guilty of this atrocious act be apprehended."

Genora Dollinger, member of the Educational Committee of Local 212 of the UAW, stated:

"As one of the victims of the brutal beatings of Local 212 UAW-CIO members, and as a part of the audience attending the lecture given by Myra Tanner Weiss Thursday night at the Socialist Workers Party headquarters, I am genuinely concerned over the rise and viciousness of the anti-labor fascist actions in Detroit.

OMINOUS WARNING

"The labor movement must take these signs of the times most seriously. These attacks are directed at the militant members of the working class. It is time that all labor organizations rally their forces now to counteract these brutal acts.

"The burning of the Socialist Workers Party headquarters is a warning to all labor. Hitler was laughed at as insignificant in the early days . . . but let us recall that his actions ended in the burning of the Reichstag and the enslavement of the German working class."

Veterans' Problems

Inflation Hits The Veterans

By Alvin Royce

Not so long ago we used to hear, now and then, about a piece of legislation called the GI Bill of Rights. Of late, however, the capitalist politicians have been soft-pedaling their boasts about this supposed Magna Charta for the veterans. Their silence has been prompted by good reasons. Virtually every chance of gaining any real benefits from this bill has been wiped out by the vicious inflationary drive of Wall Street.

Veterans on the campus have been among the first to get caught in this inflationary booby trap. The allowance for educational subsistence for a veteran with dependents is $90 a month. As the veteran reads the newspaper accounts of million dollar handouts to non-existent corporations in the form of war contracts, that $90 a month can hardly look very substantial.

The hardest hit are the two and one-half million unemployed veterans. No matter how many dependents he has, or how critical his financial problems, his total compensation is $20 a week.

Already millions of veterans and their families have been forced to scratch vital necessities off the shopping list. Butter and meat have become a rarity on the kitchen table because of their incredible prices. When and if the rent is paid, there isn't very much left to buy even the most necessary clothes.

The Militant and the Socialist Workers Party have constantly stressed the need for a sliding scale of wages inserted into all union contracts. Just as crucial is the sliding scale for all veterans' pensions and benefits. Over two years have elapsed since the GI Bill of Rights was passed. The benefits that were awarded at that time are worth little more than half, in actual purchasing power, compared to the period in which the legislation was passed by Congress.

Every trade union veteran committee and all other veteran organizations must demand that the government fix veteran benefit payments to a reliable price index. Every rise in prices must be matched by an equal rise in veterans' compensation and pensions. Payments should be retroactive so that the veteran can catch up on some of the debts he has been accumulating since he was discharged from the Army.

Consumers' committees can also be a very important force in the struggle against rising prices. How effective these committees will be in the present situation will depend on their scope, militancy and program. Veterans will unquestionably play a large role in them, and try to make them as effective agents for controlling prices as they can.

Meanwhile any bill which allows the veteran a fixed pension in face of today's soaring cost of living is a fraud. Just as all workers must demand a sliding scale of wages, so must all worker veterans demand a sliding scale of veterans' benefits.

Johnny's Initiative And How It Paid

By V. Grey

They call capitalism the system of private enterprise and rugged individualism. Initiative is supposed to be rewarded. Enterprising young men are supposed to shoot right up to the top.

Maybe so. But that's not the way it works in our shop. The fellows all know it too. That's why you don't often see them breaking out in a rash of "initiative."

We didn't always know it, of course. I remember the time a few of the welders were on a piece-work job that by some miracle or other the time-study man had put a fairly good price on. They were making pretty good money. But of course it didn't last more than a few days. (The good money jobs never do.) And they were anxious to get every hour in they could.

The boss came around one afternoon and said, "Any of you fellows know how to braze cast iron?" Nobody said anything except Johnny Dylek who hadn't been working so long at the time and was proud of being an all-around man.

"Sure, I can braze anything," says Johnny.

Louis the stump jumper tapped his forehead, meaning he thought Johnny was crazy.

Well, Johnny worked an hour and a half on the brazing job. At the end of the day his time card said "6½ hours Arc Weld at $1.25; 1½ hours Acetylene Weld at [illegible] cents."

Johnny never made the mistake of knowing too much again.

On the day that the new OPA bill became law, "The Agriculture Department estimated today that meat prices, despite larger supplies, will be 15 to 35 per cent higher this fall and winter than in June." (AP dispatch, July 25.)

Help Wanted

Judging from the way congressmen of both major parties have been passing anti-labor legislation and wrecking price controls recently, we think the following yarn has a lot of merit.

"Who is that man?" a small boy asked his father, pointing to a gentleman standing on the dais of the House of Representatives.

"That is the chaplain of the House," replied the father.

"Does he pray for the congressmen?" the son inquired.

"No, Son," said the parent solemnly. "When he goes into the House, he looks around at the congressmen sitting there, and then he prays for the country."

—The Union Register, Seattle, July 19.

"One immediate effect was apparent in a series of OPA regulations permitting price advances on a number of commodities and the removal of controls from additional items. These permitted increases of about 8 per cent on one-third the shoe output, rises of 6 to 8 cents a ton on coal and increases on some other products." (N. Y. Times, July 28.)

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